QL684
.I3
M4
v. 13
no. 3
2004

Meadowlark

A Journal of Illinois Birds
Volume 13, Number 3 2004

M. Retter 10-27-04

Publisher
Illinois Ornithological Society
Michael Hogg, President
Sheryl De Vore, Chief Editor
Peter Weber, Vice-President
Alex Meloy, Treasurer
Denis Bohm, Membership Secretary

Board of Directors
Denis Bohm
Carolyn Fields
Bob Fisher
Ron Flemal
Michael Hogg
Alex Meloy
Peter Olson
Peter Weber
Dan Williams

Associate Editors
Steven D. Bailey
Paul R. Clyne
David B. Johnson
Christine Williamson

Staff Photographers
Kanae Hirabayashi
Dennis Oehmke, Mary Kay Rubey
Eric Walters

Staff Illustrators
David Athans
Denis Kania, Peter Olson
Michael L. P. Retter
Eric Secker

Pre-Press Production
Kathy Ade
TKAde@aol.com

Printing
CityWide Printing
Des Plaines, Illinois

Editorial Advisory Board
Steven D. Bailey • Dale Birkenholz
H. David Bohlen • Kenneth J. Brock
Mary Hennen • Scott Hickman
L. Barrie Hunt • Vernon M. Kleen
Robert Montgomery
Scott K. Robinson • Robert Szafoni
Jeff Walk • David Willard

Illinois Ornithological Society

President's Message

Dear Members:

My wife and I have just returned from an enjoyable day in and around DeKalb. We focused first on the Vermilion Flyeatcher at the Afton Forest Preserve, then the surrounding countryside where the first kiss of winter mixed with late fall migration. There were Snow Buntings and Lapland Longspurs overhead and juncos in the brush. And as the shadows lengthened, hundreds of geese gathered around a corporate retention pond beside the Aurora outlet mall – a discovery which delighted my wife – before peeling off in groups headed for their overnight roost. In the middle of all the Canadas were thirty to forty newly speciated Cackling Geese and a dark phase Snow Goose.

The point of this story is that we birders can enjoy our hobby for free wherever we find ourselves. We become accustomed to this. Virtually every weekend bird clubs run field trips at which all are welcome whether or not they are members of the sponsoring organization. Mostly these field trips are free.

Then along comes a field trip like our IOS Hawk Watch, a combination lecture on hawk ID and hawk watch led by Illinois' own hawk man Vic Berardi, a nationally recognized hawk expert who will talk hawks by the hour with anyone interested in learning more. The fact that we charged a modest fee drew some criticism. At least one of the vocal critics was not even an IOS member. So this message is intended in part to explain why we charge for field trips.

Our policy is to run fewer but better field trips. We target a key note bird like the Yellow Rail or run a pelagic during peak jaeger migration. We plan to enrich the field trip experience with companion lectures such as the recent Hawk Watch. Our goal is to attract new members and to raise some dollars to enable us to expand the educational and scientific part of our mission. All our field trip leaders are expert birders intimately familiar with the areas in which they lead our field trips. Invariably they scout their areas during the days leading up to the field trip. They are all volunteers who give selflessly of their time and knowledge.

Non-members are welcome. But our expectation is that if a non-member enjoys an IOS field trip enough to want to go on another that he/she will become a member. This is the other part of this message. IOS needs more members whose membership dues will allow IOS to exert statewide leadership for the birding community. We want to provide more funding for scientific and conservation efforts such as our support for the Great Lakes Common Tern colony. We also want to launch programs to reach and educate the next generations of birders in Illinois. For this we need the financial support of more members.

So when next you hear complaints from your non-joiner birding friends, tell them instead, to support IOS's mission by joining.

Good birding.

Michael Hogg
MHKiwi@aol.com

Letter from the Editor

The gift of birding

Last Thanksgiving, Steve Bailey, his mother, Kathy, and I were looking out the window from my Mundelein home watching a Cooper's Hawk. It was sitting still on a tree, waiting for its holiday meal.

At an IOS annual meeting at Rend Lake, Dave Johnson and his father, Wilbur, or Wib, as they called him were enjoying camping and hearing birds sing in the early morning.

Wib and Kathy can no longer share a moment like that with their children. Both died, Kathy in late August and Wib in late October, leaving a legacy of a love of nature and the outdoors with their children. And it got me to thinking. Birding is a gift we give to others, even if we don't realize it.

My mother, though never a birder, gave me the gift of birding. She used to tell me about the Eastern Screech-Owls that lived in a hole in one of the many oak trees in our Hickory Hills backyard when I was in high school. She'd point out the Yellow-shafted Flicker revealing its underwings as it flew from oak to oak in our yard. I must admit, it didn't mean all that much to me at the time, but as I grew older and more interested in nature, I began to think of my mother's influence. And one day when she was on chemotherapy, I took her to the Morton Arboretum to find a Baltimore Oriole down the Joy Path. At our next stop at one of the sloughs in the Palos area, mom got tired and we had to go home. And I regretted not having spent more time sharing nature with my mother.

At this time of year, consider giving a rare and precious gift to someone – your time – out birding or hiking or enjoying the quiet winter woods. I've promised to take a friend and my brother birding for the past few years. Maybe as the New Year approaches, it's time to put the promise in action.

Sheryl DeVore

MEADOWLARK

A Journal of Illinois Birds

Volume 13, Number 3 - 2004

ISSN 1065-2043

Visit Our Website at: http://www.illinoisbirds.org

Articles

Grace's Warbler at Montrose: 82
First record east of Colorado and western Texas
– John Purcell

Fall 2003 Report:
The Illinois Beach State Park Hawkwatch 83
– Vic Berardi

Extreme Birding: 85
Beating the all-time CBC high count
– Kelly J. McKay

Departments

Photo Essays
Invasion of the Rough-legs 93
– Eric Walters

Frolicking with the Gulls 94
– Robert Hughes and Jerry Kumery
with comments from Christopher L. Wood

The 2003/2004 Illinois Christmas Bird Count 96
– David B. Johnson

Field Notes: 2003/2004 Winter Season 107
– Kelly J. McKay

About Our Cover:

Michael L. P. Retter produced the cover drawing of a subadult "Nelson's Gull" (*Herring X Glaucous hybrid*), which was seen last winter at Starved Rock Lock and Dam. Michael is a regular contributor to *Meadowlark*, both as an artist and as an author. A longtime Illinois birder, Michael is a freelance birding tour guide and artist, and will be leading trips at ABA's July 2005 Convention in Tucson. He also works for Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory's Black Hills project, where he will be entering his 5th year of work in 2005. He accepts commissioned artwork and tours.

© Copyright 2004 by the Illinois Ornithological Society. No part of this journal may be reproduced without the written permission of IOS and the chief editor, except brief passages of a paragraph or less in whieh attribution is made to the journal and author.

Grace's Warbler at Montrose:
First record east of Colorado and western Texas

by John Purcell

Over the years, the Montrose area of Lincoln Park in Chicago has attracted many rare birds. At about 7:40 a.m., 8 September 2003, this birding hot spot hosted yet another rarity.

Clara Coen and I were birding the eastern end of Montrose Point when we noticed a warbler-like bird in the small trees. My first thought was Yellow-throated Warbler, a good find at Montrose. The bird had a yellow throat with two white wing bars as does a Yellow-throated, but after some searching through a National Geographic field guide, we discovered that the bird most closely matched the picture and description of a Grace's Warbler (*Dendroica graciae*). This bird had a broad, yellow supraloral; the Yellow-throated Warbler has a white supercilium. Grace's also may have a short white section near the bill at the end of the yellow supercilium (Dunn and Garrett 1997). This bird also lacked the black auriculars as well as the white neck spot that a Yellow-throated Warbler has. Still, I found it difficult to believe that a Grace's Warbler, a western species, would be in Chicago.

Fortunately, at that point, Alex Meloy arrived, and while he kept track of the bird, I went looking for Kanae Hirabayashi. I found her and Rita Torrado on the beach and told them of the possible Grace's Warbler. We hastily returned to the Point. Alex still had the bird in view, which was now rapidly moving, and Kanae began photographing it. Meanwhile, Clara called Bob Hughes on her cell phone, and he soon arrived and was also able to get pictures. The photos taken by birders were a big help in clinching the identification of this warbler, which has a much more petite bill compared with the Yellow-throated, giving it a more rounded head appearance. After awhile the Grace's Warbler moved into the taller trees and became difficult to see. In a few hours it disappeared from view and was not seen again. Migrants seen in the vicinity of the Grace's Warbler included Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Connecticut Warbler and Philadelphia Vireo (pers. comm. J. Niland).

Grace's Warbler at Montrose Point, Cook County. 8 September 2003. Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi.

Not only is this a first state record for Grace's Warbler, but also a first record for this species east of the Mississippi River. The Peterson Field Guide (1997) states the Grace's Warbler is "unrecorded in the U.S. east of Colorado and west Texas," and that the species is "casual in fall on the southern California coast, the 15 records are mainly in September."

Curson et al. (1994) state the Grace's Warbler is a rare vagrant to California and Texas, which is just west (California) and east (Texas) of its breeding range.

Grace's Warbler breeds in the high elevation mountains of Arizona, New Mexico, southwest Colorado, southern Utah and southeast Nevada and the western corner of Texas. They breed in open forests of tall pines, especially Ponderosa pines. They winter primarily in the highlands of Mexico.

This species is of moderate conservation importance, because of its relatively small and patchy distribution, and its restriction to mature coniferous forests, according to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (see http://birds.cornell.edu/bfl/speciesaccts/grawar.html). Populations are not well monitored in any part of its range, and habitat requirements are poorly known, according to the Web site.

The Illinois Ornithological Records Committee recently accepted this species to the Illinois accidental list (Stotz and Johnson 2004).

Literature Cited

Curson, J., D. Quinn and D. Beadle. 1994. Warblers of the Americas. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, MA. 252 pp.

Dunn, J. and K. Garrett. 1997. A field guide to warblers of North America. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, MA. 656 pp.

Stotz, D.F. and D. B. Johnson. 2004. Tenth Report of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee. Meadowlark 13: 54-58.

– John Purcell
438 W. Surf Street
Chicago, IL 60657
purc@sbcglobal.net

The Illinois Beach State Park Hawkwatch

by Vic Berardi

Illinois Beach State Park is rapidly becoming known nationwide as a significant fall migration route for Merlin and Peregrine Falcon.

Geoffrey Williamson photographed this Merlin at a Christmas Bird Count in northern Illinois, during the 2003/2004 CBC period. It was only one of six Merlins documented on the 2003/2004 CBCs.

The fall of 2003 marked the fourth consecutive year of the hawkwatch at Illinois Beach State Park. In addition to becoming a continuous and hopefully, permanent hawkwatch, it has also become an established monitoring site for the Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA) which records data from hundreds of sites all over the continent. Daily information is logged into their website at www.hawkcount.org.

The hawkwatch has faced new challenges every year of its existence, and 2003 was no different than previous years. Most significantly was the temporary change of location to the parking lot across from the marina headquarters at Northpoint Marina in Winthrop Harbor. This move was a result of park improvements in the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park, and the resurfacing of the existing roads, all of which are completed. Technically, the temporary watch site was still part of the state park but the new site had new surroundings to get used to. Nevertheless, this "change of scenery" so to speak, had little effect on the actual results of the count. Last fall's count actually exceeded previous years' numbers drastically. But, without being able to compare sightings simultaneously from the permanent site at Camp Logan in the North Unit of the park, we will never know what we may have missed or, for that matter, seen more of. Plans for 2004 include returning to the pavilion site in the North Unit of the state park.

The 2003 count total of 14,908 was a new site record as well as the 641.25 hours logged in far surpassing 2002's totals of 4,113 birds and 503 hours. New site records were established for Osprey (255), Bald Eagle (22), Sharp-shinned Hawk (1,454), Cooper's Hawk (155), Red-shouldered Hawk (75), Broad-winged Hawk (9,553), Red-tailed Hawk (1,987), Rough-legged Hawk (58), American Kestrel (88), Merlin (508), and Peregrine Falcon (148). The site's big Broad-winged day came on 24 September 2003 with 3,193 Broad-wingeds counted. See table on page 84:

The second week of September typically starts off the season with the majority of this site's Osprey flight. But 2003 had a bit of a delayed flight and the majority of the Ospreys came through with the Broad-wingeds. The season's single day high count of Osprey came 24 September when 51 were seen. This is also the time when the site's Broad-wingeds come through and 2003 was not a disappointing year as previous years were. Not known

Species	2003 Totals	Year Record	Day Record
Turkey Vulture	317	390 (2001)	195 (10-6-2001)
Osprey	255	255 (2003)	66 (9-10-2001)
Bald Eagle	22	22 (2003)	7 (10-26-2001)
Northern Harrier	189	232 (2001)	101 (10-26-2001)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1,454	1,454 (2003)	244 (10-15-2003)
Cooper's Hawk	155	155 (2003)	19 (10-6-2001)
Northern Goshawk	13	15 (2000)	4 (11-3-2000)
Red-shouldered Hawk	75	75 (2003)	38 (11-13-2003)
Broad-winged Hawk	9,553	9,553 (2003)	3,193 (9-24-2003)
Red-tailed Hawk	1,987	1,987 (2003)	360 (10-26-2001)
Rough-legged Hawk	58	58 (2003)	15 (11-7-2003)
Golden Eagle	2	7 (2000)	2 (10-26-2001)
American Kestrel	88	88 (2003)	15 (10-3-2001)
Merlin	508	508 (2003)	132 (10-12-2003)
Peregrine Falcon	148	148 (2003)	41 (10-3-2001)
Unidentified Raptor	84		
Total Raptors	**14,908**		

for large Broad-winged tallies, Illinois Beach had 9,553 come through between the third week of September and the first week of October. The end of September usually marks the peak of Peregrine Falcons. The Peregrine Falcon count's single biggest day occurred 24 September with 36.

Illinois Beach is rapidly becoming known nationwide as a significant fall falcon migration route for Merlin and Peregrine Falcon. Along with the hawkwatch at Concordia University, just north of Milwaukee, only a few east coast hawkwatches, such as Cape May, exceed in Merlin and Peregrine Falcon count totals.

As October rolls in so do the Merlin, with the second week usually being the best. Illinois Beach's best Merlin day in 2003 was 12 October with 132 Merlins counted, a new state and site single day record. The majority of the day's flight came after 3 p.m. and lasted until 6 p.m. During the four day period of 12 October to 15 October, Illinois Beach recorded 317 Merlins.

By November, buteos take hold and the best days for Red-tailed Hawk movement occurred 7 November with 320 and 13 November with 326. Rough-legged Hawks made a decent showing for a site this far south 5 November (11) and 7 November (15). Red-shouldered Hawks best day was 13 November with 38 counted.

Vic Berardi and Janice Sweet organized the count with the help of the many volunteer hours put in by Eric DelBecq, Paul Sweet, Chris Whittier, Audrey Smith, Rick Schmude, Liza Gray, Bill Zineveah, Tom Mulcahy, Steve Huggins, Joan Bruchman, Erica Gasperik, Roger Hotham, Bob & Kathy Andrini, Jim Kriss, Suzanne Checchia, Al Kostyniak, Jeff Sanders, Bill Wengelewski, Michael Marlow. On the busy days we also had the help of Wes Serafin, Al Stokie, Bob Erickson, Bob Hughes, Kanae Hirabayashi, Dave Johnson, Joel Greenberg, Dave Weichers, Don Dann and Andy Sigler. The count ran from 30 August 2003 through 30 November 2003.

– Vic Berardi

For more information on the hawkwatch at Illinois Beach State Park go to the Web site: www.hawksinthesky.com

If you would like to help at the hawkwatch, please contact Vic Berardi at (847) 680-5281 or by email at VBirdman@aol.com.

Beating the all-time CBC high count

by Kelly J. McKay

Some of you may have read one of the articles published last year in which I described the adventure of doing a 20-count marathon (See *Meadowlark* 12:89-92 and 127-131, A Christmas Bird Count marathon: parts 1 and 2). If so, you will recall that I planned to attempt to complete a full 23-count marathon during the 2003-2004 CBC season. To avoid the logistics problems encountered last year, I began planning and contacting count compilers throughout a six-state region of the Midwest by early November 2003. After six weeks and seemingly unending hours of telephone and e-mail conversations, not to mention considerable shifting in the scheduling of the seven counts I compile, I was finally able to successfully schedule 23 CBCs. I also decided to increase this year's challenge by seeing how long I could go without sleep. However, I did not want to negatively impact the counts so I asked all field parties to let me know if I seemed to be making mistakes or missing birds. If so, I would certainly start sleeping so as not to jeopardize the integrity of the count. For those wondering if they should attempt this feat, be aware that I ordinarily only sleep about five hours a night, so I believed this additional challenge to be achievable.

14 December
(Davenport, Iowa-Illinois)

I began this initial CBC at 3 a.m. near my home, joined by two 15-year old first time Christmas counters, Mike Warren and Peter Woo. The temperature ranged from the mid 20s to the low 30s, and there was little or no wind. We had an extremely good day, marked by an impressive diversity of 13 waterfowl species. My group identified 64 species and 13,274 individuals. Highlights for the day included 3 Common Redpolls, 2 White-winged Scoters, and 1 each of Greater Scaup and Thayer's Gull. Several common woodland species seemed to be less abundant than usual. By the end of the count, I had been awake for 40 hours.

15 December
(Lost Nation, Iowa)

I departed for this count, requiring an 88-mile round trip, at 3:15 a.m. The temperatures were similar to yesterday, but the wind was much stronger and biting making counting difficult for my field partner, Ryan Schmitz and me. Although heavy ice cover on the Wapsipinicon River made waterfowl numbers low, we still had an outstanding day, recording 50 species and 1,645 individual birds. Notable species included 2 Hermit Thrushes and a single Winter Wren. As I returned home, I felt energized. That changed when I received a message that the next day's count, scheduled for Bridgeport, Wisconsin, had been postponed due to a winter storm predicted for the southern portion of the state. My CBC marathon attempt was in serious jeopardy only three days into the count period. I frantically jumped on the Internet and searched for a replacement count. I finally found one in Jamaica! Unfortunately this Jamaica is in central Iowa.

16 December
(Jamaica, Iowa)

I left at 3:15 a.m. for a roundtrip of 450 miles. Half way there, I encountered the predicted winter storm. Snow and ice squalls left Interstate 80 ice covered and extremely treacherous. To make matters worse, sustained winds of 40 mph, which continued all day, left many of the roadways drifted over with snow and impassable. The temperature, which never escaped the mid 20s, made for severe wind chills. I spent the day working with Ray Cummins and Tom Johnson. Despite high winds, our group did have a good day observing 49 species and 18,097 individuals, 15,000 of which were Canada Geese. Other noteworthy birds included a single Northern Goshawk, 92 Ring-necked Pheasants, and 3 Western Meadowlarks. By the way, southern Wisconsin, where I was originally going to count, received less than an inch of snow that day, once again proving weather can be as unpredictable as birds.

17 December
(Green Island, Iowa-Illinois)

I began the 120-mile round trip drive to this count at 3:30 a.m., where I joined Ulf Konig for the day. Although the temperature only reached the upper 20s, the wind (5-15mph) lessened throughout the day. The milder conditions left me feeling rejuvenated, and possibly, the birds as well. Our group had an excellent day recording 59 species and 3,088 individual birds. This count produced a number of highlights such as 35 Tundra Swans, 4 Winter Wrens, 3 Hermit Thrushes, a single Brewer's Blackbird and 59 Purple Finches. For those of you keeping track, I had now been awake for 112 consecutive hours.

18 December
(Clinton, Iowa-Illinois)

I departed on the 62-mile round trip drive at 2:45 a.m. to meet my field partner Ryan Schmitz. We encountered periodic snow showers during the pre-dawn hours. Following sunrise, the snow ended and the temperature ranged from the upper 20s to the low 30s during the day, with light to moderate winds (5-15 mph). Ten species of waterfowl allowed our group to have a very impressive day. We identified 58 species and recorded 8,843 total birds. This CBC yielded a paradox of birds including 4 Yellow-rumped Warblers and 6 Snow Buntings. Additionally, we observed 5 each of the Rough-legged Hawk and Northern Harrier, while gulls were extremely scarce within the circle.

19 December
(Western Mercer County, Illinois-Iowa)

I left home at 3:15 a.m. and met Steve Hager and Brad Cosentino, to continue the 98-mile round trip drive to this CBC circle. A fairly strong wind (15-25 mph) persisted all day, along with falling temperatures which never exceeded the upper 20s. A substantial wind chill and significant ice cover on most water bodies, kept birds deep in cover and left waterfowl and gulls almost completely absent. These conditions produced a disappointing count, with only 47 species and 2,382 individuals recorded. Notable birds were 14 Northern Bobwhites and 100 Eurasian Tree Sparrows.

20 December
(Cedar Rapids, Iowa)

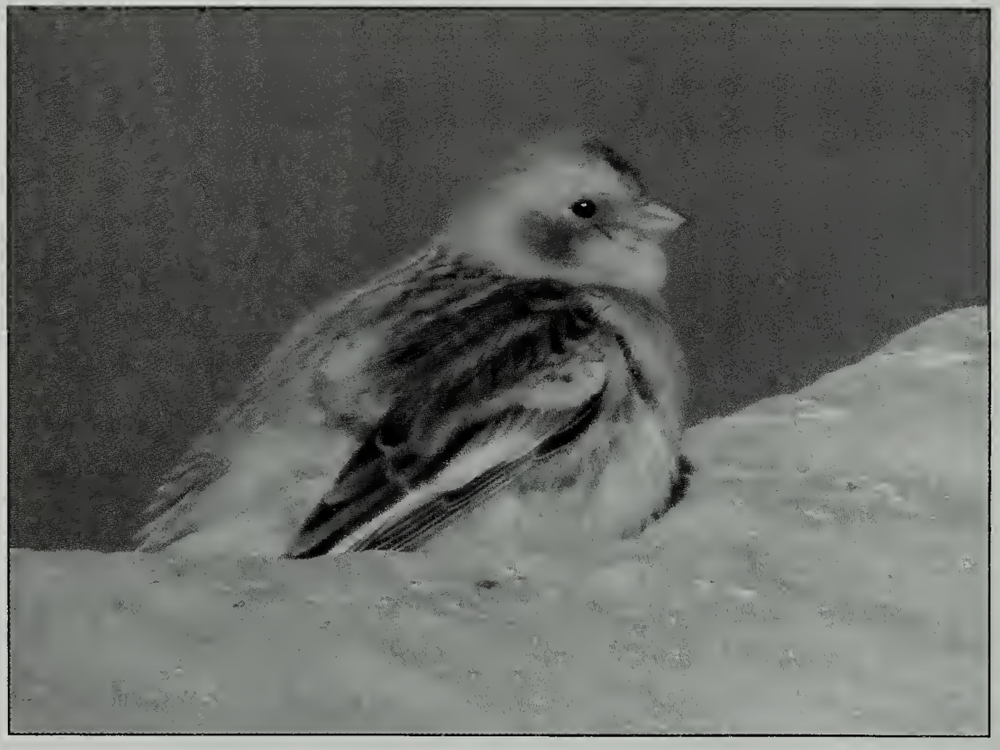
I left at 3:15 a.m. for this186-mile round trip count. During the first half of the day I worked alone, joining Weir Nelson and Ken Kadlec in the early afternoon. Temperatures ranged from the low 10s to low 20s with light to moderate winds (0-15 mph). Incredibly, I felt very alert and energized all day considering that I had been awake for 184 consecutive hours. My group recorded 59 species and 2,505 total birds. Among the highlights were single individuals of the Double-crested Cormorant, Pied-billed Grebe, and Long-eared Owl, along with 2 Black-crowned Night-Herons and 3 Carolina Wrens.

21 December
(Lake Red Rock, Iowa)

I departed at 2 a.m. for this count, which was 358 miles round trip from home. I birded with Jay Gilliam amid relatively strong winds (5-25 mph) and unseasonably mild temperatures (low 30s to upper 40s). Regardless of the decent waterfowl and gull diversity present on the lake, we tallied only 48 species, but with an impressive 26,287 individuals, of which 17,820 were Ring-billed Gulls and 5,100 were Canada Geese. Other noteworthy species included 83 Bald Eagles, 3 Thayer's Gulls, and 2 Glaucous Gulls. During the drive home, I began feeling tired and for the first time started to wonder if I would be able to complete this marathon challenge. (Editor's Note: But Kelly, we've heard that from you before. We know you can do it.)

22 December
(Keokuk, Iowa)

I began the 190-mile round trip at 3 a.m. and worked alone all day. The temperatures ranged from the mid 30s to the upper 40 s, while little or no wind (0-5 mph) occurred. A steady, sometimes heavy rain began in the late morning and continued the rest of the day. Still, we had a very good count, with 62



This Snow Bunting was taken by Robert Hughes in Cook County during the winter 2003/2004 season. It's one species to occasionally expect on some northern Illinois Christmas Bird Counts.

species and 17,460 individual birds. Among these species, 12 were waterfowl. A number of avian highlights included 6,445 Canvasbacks, 36 Redheads, 4,630 Ring-necked Ducks, 2 American White Pelicans, and a single Lincoln's Sparrow. Furthermore, passerine response to the Eastern Screech-Owl tape was phenomenal all day.

23 December
(Princeton-Camanche, Iowa-Illinois)

I departed my house at 3:15 a.m. for the 20-mile round trip and worked alone for the second day in a row. Amazingly, I felt very good all day and was never tired. Temperatures were in the upper 20s to mid 30s and winds ranged from 5-20 mph. Once again, passerine response to the owl tape was excellent. As a result, I had another remarkable day tallying 60 species

Thousand of Ring-necked Ducks ply the open waters of Illinois on some CBCs; Jerry Kumery photographed this single Ring-necked Duck 21 February 2004 at North Point Marina, Lake County.

and 5,417 individuals. As with yesterday, fair waterfowl diversity (11 species) was present. This CBC also yielded a number of noteworthy finds such as 4 Trumpeter Swans, 2 White-winged Scoters, 16 Northern Bobwhites, 113 Wild Turkeys, 120 Bald Eagles, and 2 Eurasian Tree Sparrows (one of the most northerly records).

24 December
(Van Petten, Illinois)

As I left my house at 4:15 AM on this Christmas Eve morning, to make the 164-mile round trip drive to this CBC, I was feeling really tired and mentally drained. Steve Hager and Ryan Schmitz joined me this day. The weather was crisp and cold with temperatures hovering in the upper 10s to mid 20s, and a 5-15 mph wind adding just enough wind chill to make it slightly uncomfortable and keep the birds holding fairly tightly in cover. We identified 52 species and counted 3,975 individuals. Highlights included 4 Wood Ducks, 30 meadowlark species, and 15 Rusty Blackbirds. However, the

Table 1. Cumulative species identified and total number of individuals recorded during the 2003-2004 CBC marathon.

Species *	Total # (23) CBCs (# Ind.)	# IL (14) CBCs (# Ind.)	# IA (7) CBCs (# Ind.)	# WI (2) CBCs (# Ind.)
Gr. White-fronted Goose	5 (1,170)	4 (1,166)	1 (4)	-----
Snow Goose	5 (9,372)	4 (9,297)	1 (75)	-----
Ross's Goose	3 (57)	3 (57)	-----	-----
Canada Goose	22 (29,054)	14 (7,460)	7 (21,174)	1 (420)
Mute Swan	1 (4)	-----	-----	1 (4)
Trumpeter Swan	3 (9)	2 (8)	1 (1)	-----
Tundra Swan	1 (35)	-----	1 (35)	-----
Wood Duck	6 (40)	5 (39)	1 (1)	-----
Gadwall	15 (427)	11 (339)	4 (88)	-----
American Wigeon	6 (295)	4 (276)	2 (19)	-----
American Black Duck	13 (45)	9 (29)	3 (7)	1 (9)
Mallard	22 (11,945)	14 (10,097)	7 (1,560)	1 (288)
Northern Shoveler	4 (82)	4 (82)	-----	-----
Northern Pintail	4 (25)	4 (25)	-----	-----
Green-winged Teal	4 (11)	4 (11)	-----	-----
Canvasback	6 (6,495)	5 (50)	1 (6,445)	-----
Redhead	5 (44)	3 (7)	2 (37)	-----
Ring-necked Duck	9 (8,960)	6 (4,325)	3 (4,635)	-----
Greater Scaup	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Lesser Scaup	10 (1,512)	7 (810)	3 (702)	-----
White-winged Scoter	2 (4)	2 (4)	-----	-----
Bufflehead	5 (41)	4 (29)	1 (12)	-----
Common Goldeneye	14 (8,646)	10 (6,186)	4 (2,460)	-----
Hooded Merganser	11 (78)	7 (44)	4 (34)	-----

Table 1. Continued

Species *	Total # (23) CBCs (# Ind.)	# IL (14) CBCs (# Ind.)	# IA (7) CBCs (# Ind.)	# WI (2) CBCs (# Ind.)
Common Merganser	13 (3,758)	9 (2,735)	4 (1,023)	-----
Red-breasted Merganser	1 (93)	1 (93)	-----	-----
Ruddy Duck	3 (12)	3 (12)	-----	-----
Ring-necked Pheasant	10 (120)	4 (11)	6 (109)	-----
Greater Prairie-Chicken	1 (25)	-----	-----	1 (25)
Wild Turkey	12 (262)	6 (179)	5 (35)	1 (48)
Northern Bobwhite	6 (51)	5 (44)	1 (7)	-----
Common Loon	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Pied-billed Grebe	2 (2)	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----
American White Pelican	1 (2)	-----	1 (2)	-----
Double-crest. Cormorant	5 (17)	4 (16)	1 (1)	-----
Great Blue Heron	12 (166)	10 (163)	2 (3)	-----
Bl.-crown. Night-Heron	1 (2)	-----	1 (2)	-----
Black Vulture	1 (9)	1 (9)	-----	-----
Turkey Vulture	2 (11)	2 (11)	-----	-----
Bald Eagle	21 (699)	13 (468)	7 (227)	1 (4)
Northern Harrier	11 (26)	7 (17)	4 (9)	-----
Sharp-shinned Hawk	11 (14)	7 (8)	3 (4)	1 (2)
Cooper's Hawk	9 (13)	7 (11)	1 (1)	1 (1)
Northern Goshawk	2 (2)	-----	1 (1)	1 (1)
Red-shouldered Hawk	6 (29)	5 (28)	1 (1)	-----
Red-tailed Hawk	22 (242)	13 (126)	7 (103)	2 (13)
Rough-legged Hawk	15 (37)	7 (13)	6 (13)	2 (11)
Golden Eagle	2 (2)	2 (2)	-----	-----
American Kestrel	22 (101)	14 (72)	7 (27)	1 (2)
Merlin	2 (2)	-----	-----	2 (2)
American Coot	7 (91)	5 (82)	2 (9)	-----
Killdeer	6 (43)	5 (42)	1 (1)	-----
Wilson's Snipe	3 (6)	2 (5)	1 (1)	-----
American Woodcock	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Ring-billed Gull	19 (24,345)	14 (5,489)	4 (18,840)	1 (16)
Herring Gull	16 (2,250)	10 (1,445)	4 (694)	2 (111)
Thayer's Gull	6 (10)	4 (6)	2 (4)	-----
Glaucous Gull	1 (2)	-----	1 (2)	-----
Rock Pigeon	23 (1,340)	14 (933)	7 (362)	2 (45)
Mourning Dove	21 (1,329)	13 (988)	7 (264)	1 (77)
Monk Parakeet	1 (24)	1 (24)	-----	-----
Eastern Screech-Owl	18 (38)	9 (22)	7 (14)	2 (2)
Great Horned Owl	19 (76)	11 (41)	6 (27)	2 (8)
Barred Owl	18 (40)	10 (24)	6 (14)	2 (2)
Long-eared Owl	6 (7)	1 (1)	4 (5)	1 (1)
Short-eared Owl	1 (3)	1 (3)	-----	-----
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Belted Kingfisher	15 (39)	9 (20)	5 (16)	1 (3)
Red-headed Woodpecker	18 (123)	12 (82)	5 (40)	1 (1)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	22 (406)	13 (240)	7 (154)	2 (12)
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	12 (14)	8 (10)	3 (3)	1 (1)
Downy Woodpecker	23 (519)	14 (293)	7 (203)	2 (23)
Hairy Woodpecker	22 (148)	13 (93)	7 (49)	2 (6)

best encounter of the day, by far, was 3 Short-eared Owls perched on fence posts and observed as the sun was setting on this beautiful Christmas Eve.

25 December

(Chicago Lakefront, Illinois)

I began the 3-hour, 368-mile round trip, drive at 3:30 a.m. on a clear, brisk Christmas morning. Seasonable temperatures (low 20s to low 30s) and lighter winds (5-10 mph) made for a very enjoyable count. I teamed with Joel Greenberg to participate in the only CBC I went on located entirely within a major city. This creates unique count conditions, such as the near total absence of natural habitat within the count circle, and the way birds hold tight to what little habitat they can fin. For example, along Lakeshore Drive we found a couple small landscape plantings of prairie grass (maybe 15 feet long by 3 feet wide). Within these scraps of habitat, there were 2 Song, 2 Swamp, and 6 White-throated Sparrows which simply would not leave the grass, despite the number of people disturbing them. My group had only 27 species and 4,047 birds. The day's highlights included a single Common Loon, 3 Thayer's Gulls, and 24 Monk Parakeets. By the way, for those of you wondering, the sleepless streak had now extended to 304 consecutive hours.

26 December

(Montello, Wisconsin)

I departed home at 1:30 a.m..to make the 4-hour, 499-mile round trip drive. I joined Bill Brooks for the day. We had very good weather conditions with temperatures ranging from the mid teens to the mid 30s and light winds (5-10 mph). We had 45 species and 1,918 individual birds. The day's notable birds included 4 Mute Swans, a single Merlin, 3 Belted Kingfishers, and 1 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

27 December

(Lake Chautauqua NWR, Illinois)

I left my house at 3:30 a.m. for the 275-mile round trip. I birded with Angella and Dan Moorehouse amid mild weather, with temperatures warming from the mid 30s to the mid 50s and light to moderate winds (5-20 mph). During the early morning I felt great, but by late morning I was beginning to feel sick. By early afternoon, I was very ill with a severe respiratory infection that left me with aching joints, a slight fever and an uncontrollable cough. Still, I kept going, to finish

Table 1. Continued

Species *	Total # (23) CBCs (# Ind.)	# IL (14) CBCs (# Ind.)	# IA (7) CBCs (# Ind.)	# WI (2) CBCs (# Ind.)
Northern Flicker	22 (354)	13 (233)	7 (116)	2 (5)
Pileated Woodpecker	14 (50)	9 (40)	4 (6)	1 (4)
Loggerhead Shrike	1 (3)	1 (3)	-----	-----
Northern Shrike	5 (5)	4 (4)	-----	1 (1)
Blue Jay	22 (1,426)	13 (788)	7 (508)	2 (130)
American Crow	23 (3,011)	14 (1,581)	7 (1,247)	2 (183)
Common Raven	1 (6)	-----	-----	1 (6)
Horned Lark	16 (730)	12 (670)	4 (60)	-----
Carolina Chickadee	4 (243)	4 (243)	-----	-----
Black-capped Chickadee	19 (1,139)	10 (501)	7 (499)	2 (139)
Tufted Titmouse	18 (335)	12 (247)	6 (88)	-----
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4 (8)	-----	2 (2)	2 (6)
White-breasted Nuthatch	22 (547)	13 (319)	7 (185)	2 (43)
Brown Creeper	20 (87)	13 (57)	6 (29)	1 (1)
Carolina Wren	13 (134)	9 (119)	4 (15)	-----
Winter Wren	10 (19)	6 (12)	4 (7)	-----
Marsh Wren	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Golden-crowned Kinglet	10 (33)	9 (32)	1 (1)	-----
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5 (27)	5 (27)	-----	-----
Eastern Bluebird	10 (188)	7 (156)	3 (32)	-----
Hermit Thrush	10 (23)	8 (18)	2 (5)	-----
American Robin	13 (2,382)	8 (2,248)	4 (128)	1 (6)
Gray Catbird	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Northern Mockingbird	4 (17)	4 (17)	-----	-----
Brown Thrasher	3 (6)	3 (6)	-----	-----
European Starling	23 (12,658)	14 (8,795)	7 (3,739)	2 (124)

the day with 65 species and 3,164 total birds. Highlights from this CBC included 42 Great Blue Herons, singles of the Red-shouldered Hawk and Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and 2 Northern Mockingbirds.

During the drive home, I was feeling very ill and wondered if this would jeopardize my completing the marathon attempt. Compounding my illness was undoubtedly the fact that I had not slept in 352 hours.

28 December

(Illini State Park, Illinois)

Participating on this CBC required a round trip of 205 miles. I departed for the count at 5 a.m. and was now terribly sick. The infection left me with a severely congested chest, which made breathing very difficult and coughing continuous and uncontrollable. I joined Ken Wysocki and John Duran for this CBC. Once again the weather was extremely mild, with temperatures in the mid 40s to mid 50s and moderate winds from 10-20 mph. Despite the fact that I was gagging with nearly every breath, our group

Table 1. Continued

Species *	Total # (23) CBCs (# Ind.)	# IL (14) CBCs (# Ind.)	# IA (7) CBCs (# Ind.)	# WI (2) CBCs (# Ind.)
Cedar Waxwing	17 (674)	10 (200)	6 (455)	1 (19)
Yellow-rumped Warbler	10 (61)	8 (53)	2 (8)	-----
Common Yellowthroat	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Eastern Towhee	3 (10)	3 (10)	-----	-----
American Tree Sparrow	23 (1,505)	14 (914)	7 (543)	2 (48)
Field Sparrow	4 (67)	4 (67)	-----	-----
Vesper Sparrow	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Savannah Sparrow	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----	-----
Fox Sparrow	7 (23)	7 (23)	-----	-----
Song Sparrow	20 (450)	14 (416)	6 (34)	-----
Lincoln's Sparrow	2 (2)	1 (1)	1 (1)	-----
Swamp Sparrow	16 (137)	12 (129)	4 (8)	-----
White-throated Sparrow	20 (839)	13 (801)	7 (38)	-----
White-crowned Sparrow	7 (145)	7 (145)	-----	-----
Dark-eyed Junco	22 (2,281)	13 (1,475)	7 (709)	2 (97)
Lapland Longspur	10 (62)	8 (53)	2 (9)	-----
Snow Bunting	2 (8)	2 (8)	-----	-----
Northern Cardinal	22 (1,747)	13 (935)	7 (799)	2 (13)
Indigo Bunting	1 (5)	1 (5)	-----	-----
Red-winged Blackbird	17 (46,054)	11 (45,816)	5 (232)	1 (6)
Eastern Meadowlark	3 (114)	3 (114)	-----	-----
Western Meadowlark	1 (3)	-----	1 (3)	-----
Meadowlark sp. **	2 (31)	2 (31)	-----	-----
Rusty Blackbird	9 (440)	8 (436)	1 (4)	-----
Brewer's Blackbird	1 (1)	-----	1 (1)	-----
Common Grackle	9 (39,895)	7 (39,892)	2 (3)	-----
Brown-headed Cowbird	12 (2,149)	9 (2,127)	3 (22)	-----
Purple Finch	17 (241)	8 (74)	7 (121)	2 (46)
House Finch	20 (503)	12 (350)	7 (86)	1 (67)
Common Redpoll	4 (156)	3 (7)	-----	1 (149)
Pine Siskin	4 (5)	2 (2)	1 (1)	1 (2)
American Goldfinch	22 (482)	13 (272)	7 (163)	2 (47)
House Sparrow	23 (4,591)	14 (2,794)	7 (1,658)	2 (139)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	5 (201)	4 (140)	1 (61)	-----
Total Species (# Ind.)	**132 (241,223)**	**120 (167,618)**	**93 (71,186)**	**51 (2,419)**

*Species taxonomic order and nomenclature follows A.O.U. (2003) and I.O.S. (1999).

** Not identified to species and therefore not counted in the species total.

had a productive day with 57 species and 6,938 individual birds (Table 1) including singles of Northern Shrike, Marsh Wren, Eastern Towhee and Lincoln's Sparrow, along with 4 Fox Sparrows. (Editor's Note: By this time I would have been home tucked into bed, but the intrepid and unbelievable Kelly McKay kept on! As they say in the commercials, we do not recommend anyone attempt this craziness. Unless your name happens to be Kelly McKay. And remember, ask your doctor first before embarking on this or any other exercise program.)

29 December

(Horseshoe Lake, Illinois)

I departed home at 11 p.m. for the 7-hour, 388-mile drive to extreme southern Illinois, where I would spend the next four days. I continued coughing uncontrollably, which probably helped keep me awake during this long overnight drive. A good friend, Catherine Bland, joined me. During most of the night, we drove through light to moderate rain squalls, which ended within an hour of beginning the count. The weather was noticeably mild, which is typical for southern Illinois. The temperature varied from the low 40s to the low 50s, and the wind was light (0-10 mph). We had a very good day identifying 71 species and 6,785 individual birds. We had 15 species of waterfowl as well as 7 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 18 Field Sparrows, 10 Fox Sparrows, and 20 Eastern Meadowlarks. During the day, I started coughing up some blood, and by night I was feeling very sick again. The fear of not being able to continue the CBC marathon, brought about a decision to end my sleepless streak. I finally went to bed at 10 p.m. after being awake for 398 consecutive hours. The marathon was now 2/3 complete. However, as I slept for the first time in 16 days, I wondered if I would be able to successfully achieve this odyssey.

30 December

(Union County, Illinois)

After 7 very restful hours of sleep, I awoke refreshed and feeling much better. Steve Dinsmore and I departed for the 26-mile drive to this count at 5:15 a.m. We enjoyed another mild day, with the temperature varying from the mid 20s to the mid 40s and light winds. My group recorded 74 species and 24,940 total birds. This number included 17 species of waterfowl. Among the many highlights of this count were 931 Greater White-fronted Geese, 6,100 Snow Geese, 53 Ross's Geese, 1 Golden Eagle, and a single Gray Catbird.

A Lincoln's Sparrow is a nice find for an Illinois CBC. Kanae Hirabayashi photographed this Lincoln's Sparrow 2 October 2002 at Montrose, Cook County.

31 December

(Mermet Lake, Illinois-Kentucky)

Once again, Catherine Bland and I formed a field party. We had a 62-mile drive to the count circle, and departed at 5 a.m. Mild temperatures and almost nonexistent winds along with my improving health made me really enthusiastic about the count. Thanks to a remarkable variety of waterfowl at Mermet Lake (18 species), my group had an absolutely extraordinary day 90 species and 32,068 individuals. This was the best CBC that I had ever participated on, in terms of diversity. The entire count was a highlight! For instance, we recorded 9 Black and 10 Turkey Vultures, 3 Loggerhead Shrikes, 12 Northern Mockingbirds, 1 Common Yellowthroat, single Vesper and Savannah Sparrows, and 5 Indigo Buntings. We spent New Year's Eve at Cathie Hutcheson's house (another southern Illinois CBCer). Cathie and her husband Lou put us up for the night and dished out a heaping helping of southern Illinois hospitality, along with a very delicious meal.

1 January

(Jackson County, Illinois)

Catherine Bland and I departed the Hutchesons at 4:45 a.m. on this New Year's Day morning to make the 61-mile drive to the count circle, where we joined Vicki Lang and Steve Juhlin. Once again, mild weather persisted with temperatures in the mid 40s to mid 50s and light to moderate winds (5-20 mph). Fewer waterfowl than expected resulted in the least number of species among the 4 southern Illinois counts. Nevertheless, we still had a very good day observing 69 species and 51,621 birds. Noteworthy species included 17 Red-shouldered Hawks, a single Golden Eagle and American Woodcock, 44 Red-headed Woodpeckers, 4 Brown Thrashers, 26,682 Red-winged Blackbirds, and 19,257 Common Grackles.

2 January

(Adams County, Wisconsin)

We departed Carbondale, Illinois at 7 p.m. and drove 11.5 hours covering 612 miles north into central Wisconsin. I worked alone for the first half of the day, and then helped Eric Howe during the latter half. The weather was much more inclement than what I had experienced over the past 4 days, 600 miles to the south. Late in the afternoon it began to rain heavily, making the roads icy for the first

couple hours driving home. We had a fairly poor day identifying only 30 species and 501 total birds. Nevertheless, a number of notables were observed including 25 Greater Prairie-Chickens, singles of the Northern Goshawk and Merlin, 6 Common Ravens, and 149 Common Redpolls. Following a 5-hour (249-mile) drive home, I was finally able to sleep after 42 consecutive hours of being awake.

3 January

(North Linn, Iowa)

After a mere 3 hours of sleep, I departed on the 198-mile round trip at 4:30 am. to join Weir Nelson, Ken Kadlec, and Diana Pesek. All day I felt very tired and I could feel my respiratory infection coming back. To make matters worse, a strong winter storm was approaching Iowa from the west. The temperature dropped all day from the low 30s to the low 20s. The 5-15 mph wind created a biting wind chill, which along with the falling thermometer, kept birds in cover all day and made counting very difficult. We observed only 38 species and 2,104 individuals. Interesting finds included 4 Rough-legged Hawks, 292 Cedar Waxwings, and 12 White-throated Sparrows.

4 January

(Muscatine, Iowa-Illinois)

Although I was nearing the successful completion of this CBC marathon, the last couple of days were not going to go down easily. I left on the 76-mile round trip at 4 a.m. with my infection back in full force. Additionally, a major winter storm moved in overnight and continued all day long. Frigid temperatures (low to mid 20s) and moderately strong winds (10-20 mph), along with 8 inches of snow, created extremely difficult conditions with many roadways drifted shut. Lindsey Maess, another first time Christmas counter, joined me in these brutal conditions and amazingly we had a very good day tallying 52 species and recording 1,869 individual birds. Nine species of waterfowl definitely helped. Notable finds included 2 Green-winged Teal, 1 Northern Shrike, 2 Hermit Thrushes, and 4 Yellow-rumped Warblers.

5 January

(Andalusia, Illinois-Iowa)

I departed on the 74-mile round trip drive at 4:30 a.m. Catherine Bland and I once again formed a field party for this CBC marathon finale. The winter storm was now over, leaving in its wake very cold temperatures (low to mid 10s) and light to moderate winds (10-15 mph), which produced a substantial wind chill. Regardless of the weather conditions, bird activity was good and we had a great day to conclude this 23-count CBC epic. My group identified 56 species and 2,295 individual birds. However, as with several of the counts, many of the common woodland species remained relatively scarce. The highlights of this final CBC included 124 Horned Larks, a single Winter Wren and Northern Mockingbird, and 12 Lapland Longspurs. As I was driving home at the end of the day, I couldn't wait until next year and began to wonder what sort of CBC challenge I would undertake next.

During the course of completing these 23 counts, my field parties identified a total of 132 species and recorded 241,223 individual birds (Table 1). Overall, the 10 most abundant species encountered included the Red-winged Blackbird (46,054), Common Grackle (39,895), Canada Goose (29,054), Ring-billed Gull (24,345), European Starling (12,658), Mallard (11,945), Snow Goose (9,372), Ring-necked Duck (8,960), Common Goldeneye (8,646), and Canvasback (6,495). These 10 species accounted for 81.8% of all identified birds. I participated on 14 counts in Illinois, 7 in Iowa, and 2 in Wisconsin.

I spent 360 hours, most of them (267.25) counting birds and only 32 hours sleeping. I drove 7,100.25 miles either en route (4,829) or counting birds (2,271,25). and I consumed 16.4 gallons of soda.

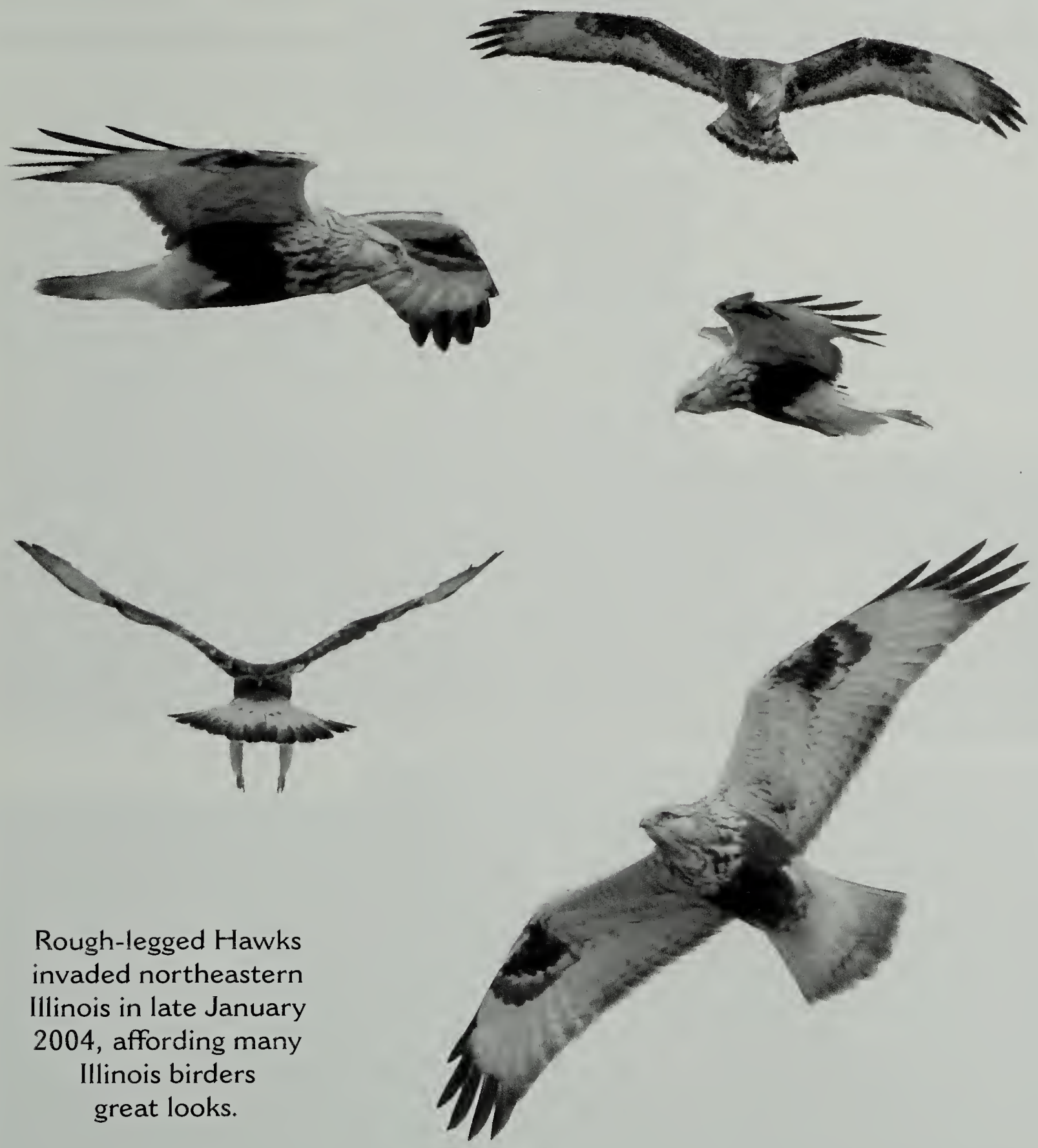
Completing the full 23-count marathon, establishes a new all-time record for the number of CBCs conducted by a single person in one year (breaking last year's record of 20 counts). I greatly enjoyed working and collecting data with so many old friends and new acquaintances. I carry away from this marathon countless memorable moments and experiences, and thank all the dedicated birders with whom it was my privilege to work. A CBC marathon is certainly a grueling endeavor, and not for everyone. However, we definitely require as much information as possible regarding avian population trends in order to better understand and make informed management decisions concerning the health and status of our avian communities. Consequently, it is my hope that reading this article will inspire more people to actively participate and contribute data to the CBC program. In the years to come, I believe that citizen scientists will play an increasingly important role in the wildlife research and monitoring which is absolutely necessary if we are going to protect and preserve the Earth's biodiversity.

With the successful accomplishment of a complete CBC marathon, I am now actively soliciting ideas from other birders and Christmas counters on a new CBC challenge. If anyone has a suggestion, please drop me an e-mail at KellyJMcKay @aol.com.

(Editor's suggestion:
Kelly, get some sleep!)

Kelly J. McKay,
BioEco Research
and Monitoring Center
420 1st Avenue, P.O. Box 452
Hampton, IL 61256
KellyJMcKay@aol.com

Invasion of the Rough-Legs



Rough-legged Hawks invaded northeastern Illinois in late January 2004, affording many Illinois birders great looks.

Eric Walters created this montage with photographs he took of the visitors in action between 27 November 2003 and 21 February 2004 in Cook, Grundy, Henry and Ogle Counties.

Frolicking with the Gulls

Photo Captions and Identification Tips by Christopher L. Wood

Thanks to organizers Jim Landing, David B. Johnson and others, the Annual Gull Frolic held the past three years in February at Winthrop Harbor, Lake County, has become a bustling, crowded affair with birders, neophyte and advanced, enjoying the gulls that visit Illinois during the colder months. The Illinois Ornithological Society along with the Chicago Audubon Society, DuPage Birding Club, Will County Audubon Society, Kane County Audubon Society, Evanston North-Shore Bird Club, Wild Bird Center and Chicago Ornithological Society have financially supported this event. The 2005 Gull Frolic will be held Saturday, February 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To prepare for this year's Gull Frolic, we feature some photos from last year as well as details on how to identify these birds in black and white, written by American Birding Association's Christopher L. Wood. Lucky for Illinois birders, Chris has recently moved to our prairie state. Note that Chris prefers the term first-cycle rather than first-winter and directs readers to see two recent articles by Steve N.G. Howell in Birding for more details on molt terminology. (Vol. 35 No. 5 October 2003, All You Ever Wanted to Know About Molt, Part 1 and Vol. 35 No. 6, December 2003, All You Ever Wanted to Know About Molt, Part 11).

First-cycle Kumlien's Iceland Gull

Photo by Robert Hughes.

First-cycle Kumlien's Gulls are similar to both Glaucous Gull and Thayer's Gull. Compared with a first-cycle Glaucous Gull, note this bird's mostly dark bill (Glaucous would have a dark tip) and this bird's relatively long wings. Differentiating Thayer's Gull from Kumlien's Gull is notoriously challenging. Note here the very pale wings that are paler than the body, and the pale and heavily patterned tertials. Also note the rounded head and body that along with the short bill and legs, give the bird a rather dumpy appearance.

Second-cycle Kumlien's Iceland Gull

Photo by Jerry Kumery.

This bird's extensively white wings are too pale for even the palest of Thayer's Gulls. The bird's dark bill tip may suggest Glaucous Gull, but note the darker feathers on this bird's upper-wing coverts, which along with the date show that this bird is either in its second or third winter (that these are still mostly white suggest a bird in its second-cycle). By the time Kumlien's Gulls have molted in adult-like wing coverts, the extent of black on the bill is usually quite limited and more similar to a Glaucous Gull. Size is a big help in differentiating the two species at this age, but the scaup in the background isn't close enough to be much help. Note, however that at least the outer two primaries are somewhat darker than the rest of the wing. This should be enough to convince us this is a Kumlien's Gull.

These photos were either taken at the February 2004 Gull Frolic in Winthrop Harbor, Lake County or during winter 2003/2004 at Montrose Harbor, Cook County.

First-cycle Glaucous Gull

Photo by Robert Hughes.

This first-cycle Glaucous Gull is similar to the palest of Kumlien's Iceland Gull, but note the much shorter wings, blockier head shape, and the bicolored bill.

Second-cycle Thayer's Gull

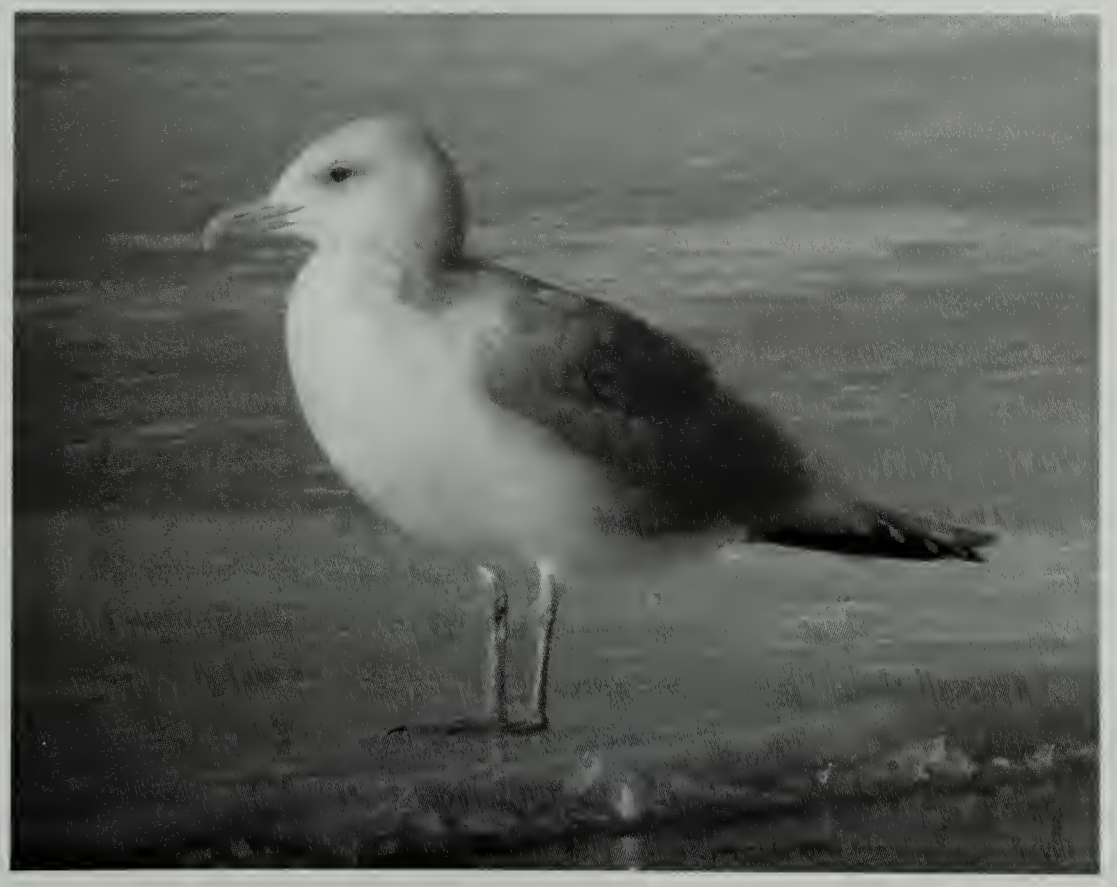
Photo by Robert Hughes.

Most large gulls take four years to reach adult plumage. The mottled appearance of the mantle and wing coverts on this bird is typical of a second-cycle bird. In many ways this bird is similar to a Herring Gull. But this bird's primaries are considerably paler than a Herring Gull's. Furthermore, the pale frosty tips are unlike a Herring Gull. The darkest Kumlien's Gulls may approach this, but they should show more of a pattern to the tertials. While quite variable, this is a rather normal-looking second-cycle Thayer's Gull.

Adult Thayer's Gull

Photo by Robert Hughes.

Scanning through large flocks of Herring Gulls can be tedious, but often rewarding when you come upon something like this bird. Looking at the underside of the far wing we can see that it is very pale. Herring Gull, by contrast, would have the underside of the primaries appear black with only a small white mirror and white tip. This is the least subjective mark to separate this Thayer's Gull from Herring Gull. Also note the dark wash on the back of the head and nape that is quite smudgy. When scanning through a large flock of Herring Gulls, looking for this more even wash, is a good way to find a candidate Thayer's Gull.



The 2003/2004 Illinois Christmas Bird Count

by David B. Johnson

"Man, what a day of birding!" exclaimed Frank Bennett, compiler of the Massac County Mermet Lake count. Everything went right, according to Bennett, who said his CBC was "a magical day of birding." Mermet Lake tallied an amazing state record 112 species breaking the previous high of 105 species held by Cypress Creek (last season) by seven species. The average low temperature of 25 degrees Fahrenheit and average high temperature of 37 degrees Fahrenheit statewide helped hold many lingering species. Open water combined with the right weather conditions, observer effort, good wild foods (berries, mast and other seed crops), and other right stuff made for a season to remember—particularly in southern Illinois. Not to be overshadowed by Mermet Lake's success, several other southern Illinois counts smashed the state's previous record of 105 species. These included Rend Lake (110), Carlyle Lake (108), and Cypress Creek (107). Union County achieved 100 in 2001/02 and Horseshoe Lake achieved 100 in 1999/2000. No count in central or northern Illinois has ever come close to achieving 100 species. A total of 62 counts were received tallying a total of 167 species, including one new CBC species, White-winged Dove, plus one unrecognized form, (Ringed Turtle-Dove). Table 1 shows the count compilers, weather conditions, party hours and other circle data. Map 1 shows the location of the counts. Table 2 shows the count species data broken into North, Central and South.

For the first time ever, a White-winged Dove was recorded on an Illinois CBC. Travis A. Mahan photographed this bird at the Waltonville grain elevators in Jefferson County 6 December 2003. It remained in the area to be tallied on the Rend Lake count.

High counts

Twenty-two all-time state high counts were set or tied for an individual species total recorded within a count circle. Rend Lake tallied a record 235 Horned Grebes, 2 Eared Grebes, and 4,656 Bonaparte's Gulls. Calumet City-Sand Ridge tallied an amazing 34 Black-crowned Night-Herons, 4 Peregrine Falcons, and 103 Monk Parakeets. Union County tied their 3,000 Greater White-fronted Geese and found a record 65 Ross's Geese. Evanston (North Shore) recorded 179 Redheads and 6,899 Greater Scaup on Lake Michigan. Crab Orchard NWR noted 703 Hooded Mergansers. Cypress Creek tallied a record 201 Black and 238 Turkey Vultures, 468 Killdeer, 4 American Woodcock, and 365 Yellow-rumped Warblers. Fermilab-Batavia set a record of 27 Cooper's Hawks and 10 invading Northern Shrikes. Mermet Lake noted 8 lingering Dunlin and 5 Indigo Buntings. Horseshoe Lake recorded a remarkable 127 American Pipits. Rockford tallied a record 720 House Finches.

The top ten total numbers of individuals (in order of abundance) were: Common Grackle (335,286), Mallard (260,350), American Crow (218,866), Canada Goose (211,621), European Starling (196,164), Red-winged Blackbird (187,608), Snow Goose (162,653), Ring-billed Gull (74,745), House Sparrow (43,788), and Mourning Dove (20,977).

Loons through waterfowl

Rare any time (especially inland) was Springfield's Pacific Loon well documented by numerous photographs. Common Loons (28 in 8 circles) lingered statewide. Middle Fork River Valley noted a rare Red-necked Grebe. Chautauqua's five American White Pelicans were the only pelicans recorded. Great Blue Herons (1,268 in 56 circles) were widespread. Crab Orchard (1) and Mermet Lake (1) noted the only Great Egrets. The northernmost Turkey Vultures were at Middle Fork (5), Forest Glen (1), and Springfield (12). Black Vultures (289 in 5 circles) were confined to southern Illinois. 14 Trumpeter Swans (in four circles) were noteworthy as were 51 Tundra Swans at Chautauqua and 7 at Hennepin,

along the Illinois River. Green Island/Lost Mound had 35 Tundra Swans on the Mississippi River. Greater White-fronted (7,402 in 16 circles) and Ross's Geese (188 in 10 circles) are being recorded in greater numbers. Greater Scaup are lingering longer on Lake Michigan –Evanston and Waukegan recorded large rafts of 10,071 birds plus 4,175 scaup species. This increase in scaup may be due, in part, to the zebra mussel explosion. Most unusual were the inland scoter records: a Surf at Newton and Mermet Lake, 3 White-winged at Mermet, a Black at Kishwaukee, and two White-winged at Princeton-Camanche IA and Davenport IA on the Mississippi River. All three scoters were at both Evanston (North Shore) and Waukegan on Lake Michigan. Long-tailed Ducks at Carlyle (3), Clinton (1), Davenport (2), Pere Marquette (1) and Rend Lake (1) were unusual inland records. Lake Michigan's numbers of wintering Long-tailed are diminishing (4 at Evanston; 11 at Waukegan). Hooded Mergansers (1,622 in 37 circles) were noted in increased numbers by several compilers.

Diurnal raptors through gulls

Bald Eagles (1,922 in 43 circles) are definitely on the upswing, and six circles noted all-time highs for their respective counts. Solitary Golden Eagles were at Fermilab-Batavia and Chautauqua and Jackson and Union counties. This eagle is regular in southern Illinois around the goose refuges and more unusual in the rest of the state. Northern Harriers (549 in 49 circles) were widespread. Northern Goshawk singletons were at Joliet and Forest Glen. This was a Rough-legged Hawk (156 in 47 circles) year. Single Merlins were noted on six counts. Twelve Peregrines on seven counts indicate a more regular occurrence of this species in our state in early winter. Noteworthy were six Gray Partridges at Van Petten and one recorded by Rockford of this difficult-to-find and declining game bird. Easy to detect now is the not-so Wild Turkey (1,297 in 39 circles). A lingering (wintering?) Virginia Rail was noted at Cypress Creek. Lisle Arboretum noted a late flight of 122 Sandhill Cranes while singletons were noted at Bloomington, Fermilab-Batavia, and Chillicothe. Four Least Sandpipers were at Rend Lake and another solitary bird was at Pere Marquette. An American Woodcock at Forest Glen was the northernmost of the 8 reported in the state (in 5 circles) this season. The northernmost Bonaparte's Gulls were at Chicago Urban (12) and Evanston (North Shore) (1). Fermilab-Batavia recorded the only Iceland Gull. Nine Lesser Black-backed Gulls (in 5 circles) were noted. The 2 Great Black-backed Gulls at Calumet were expected but the inland bird at Middle Fork River Valley was remarkable.

American Pipit on the Evanston North-Shore Bird Count at Fort Sheridan, Lake County. 27 December 2003. Photo by Geoffrey Williamson.

Pigeons through kinglets

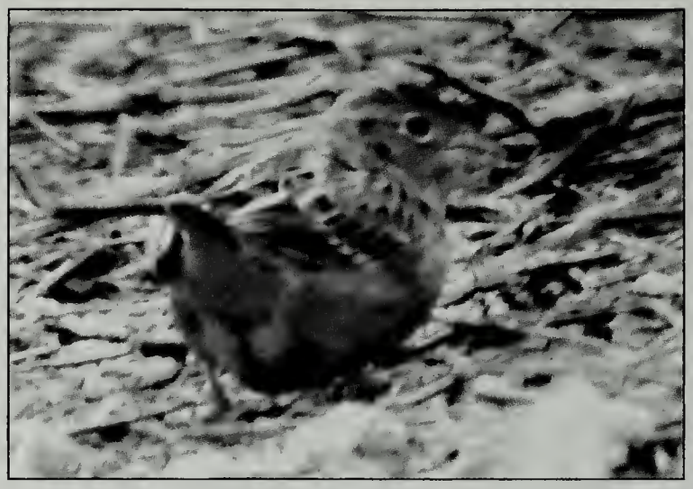
Expanding Eurasian Collared-Doves (131 in 12 circles) were new for several counts. New to the Illinois CBC species list was Rend Lake's obliging White-winged Dove, a cooperative stake out. *See photo*. The largest Long-eared Owl count was Green Island/Lost Mound's 15 owls. Seventeen Short-eared Owls at Hennepin was a good tally for the north. Nine Northern Saw-whet Owls (in eight circles) was probably a result of persistent effort of diligent owlers. Belted Kingfishers (318 in 57 circles) were reported on nearly every count, several with all-time highs. Most remarkable were the two lingering Rufous Hummingbirds (both banded and photographed) at Jackson County and Bird Haven. The ubiquitous winter woodpecker next to the Downy (4,972 in 62 circles) is the Red-bellied (4,666 in 61 circles). Pileated Woodpeckers (575 in 39 circles) seem to be better detected along Illinois' deep river valleys. Indicative of a mild season were 16 Eastern Phoebes (in 7 circles), though all were in the southern tip of Illinois. Fifty-six Loggerhead Shrikes were tallied (in 13 circles). Fifty invading Northern Shrikes (in 20 circles) were noted, with the southernmost being recorded at Chautauqua. Blue Jays (11,913 in 61 circles) were noted in high numbers this season perhaps in correspondence to a good mast crop. Following a lull year with few reports (38 in 20 circles last season) Red-breasted Nuthatches (324 in 36 circles) were recorded in good numbers: 61 individuals at Waukegan certainly was a spike count. A noteworthy solitary Barn Swallow and House Wren were at Warbluff. A solitary Sedge Wren was noted at Cypress Creek and 4 Marsh Wrens were tallied (in 4 circles) with the northernmost birds being at Illini and Chautauqua.

Thrushes through buntings

Higher counts and more frequent reports of frugivorous species (birds that eat poison ivy, honeysuckle, wild grape, and berries off of other trees and shrubs that retain their fruits) were Eastern Bluebirds (2,423 in 49 circles), Hermit Thrushes (245 in 45 circles), American Robins (18,588 in 53 circles), Gray Catbirds (12 in 10 circles), Northern Mockingbirds (346 in 35 circles), Brown Thrashers (50 in 16 circles), and Cedar Waxwings (7,177 in 55 circles). These species were noted by many compilers as being in above-average numbers. For example, the report of 12 Gray Catbirds statewide is nearly unheard of in early winter in Illinois. American Pipits (232 in 6 circles) were noted throughout the state with northernmost individuals at Evanston (1 at Ft. Sheridan in Lake County, see photo) and Champaign (5); remarkable high counts were tallied at Meredosia Island (35), while Horseshoe Lake's 127 pipits was, indeed, a state record.

In the warbler department, most unusual were the northerly single Pine Warblers at Lisle Arboretum and Waukegan both first for their respective counts. Evanston (North Shore) had its first Orange-crowned Warbler. Palm Warblers were noted at Newton (1), Mermet Lake (2), and Jackson (1). Single Common Yellowthroats were at Baldwin Lake, Chicago Urban, Meredosia, and two were at Mermet Lake.

Two Spotted Towhees were noted, one each at Fermilab-Batavia and Lake Mermet; Chicago Urban had a count week bird. Eastern Towhees (286 in 23 circles) were well represented particularly in the south; Mermet Lake tallied a very high count of 62 individuals. Three Chipping Sparrows were noted at Cypress Creek (2 undocumented) and Green Island/Lost Mound (1). A Vesper Sparrow was found at Mermet Lake. Not since 1949 has a Grasshopper Sparrow been recorded on an Illinois CBC; Lisle Arboretum's well-documented and photographed bird (*see photo*) was a remarkable find.



The Grasshopper Sparrow has not been recorded on an Illinois CBC since 1949. John Duran, who along with Marlys Oosting discovered this species 14 December 2003 during the Lisle Arboretum Christmas Bird Count returned with Geoffrey Williamson to obtain photographs 22 December 2003. The Lisle Arboretum count encompasses Cook, DuPage and Will Counties. The Grasshopper Sparrow was found and photographed in Cook County.

Low counts of Le Conte's Sparrows were noted this year with 7 reported from 3 circles, plus Hennepin had a count week bird. Six Lincoln's Sparrows (in 6 circles) were reported and Chicago Urban had a count week bird. A solitary Harris's Sparrow was noted at Cypress Creek. Most unusual were the 4 Indigo Buntings at Union and 5 buntings at Mermet Lake; these birds were frequenting weedy sorghum fields. A tardy migrant was a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Meredosia Island; this bird was found in an overgrown ragweed field associating with cardinals. Low numbers of Snow Buntings (375 in 11 circles) were indicative of the mild winter; a singleton at Carlyle Lake was the southernmost bird. No count missed our state bird, the Northern Cardinal (14,732 in 62 circles).

Blackbirds through weaver finches

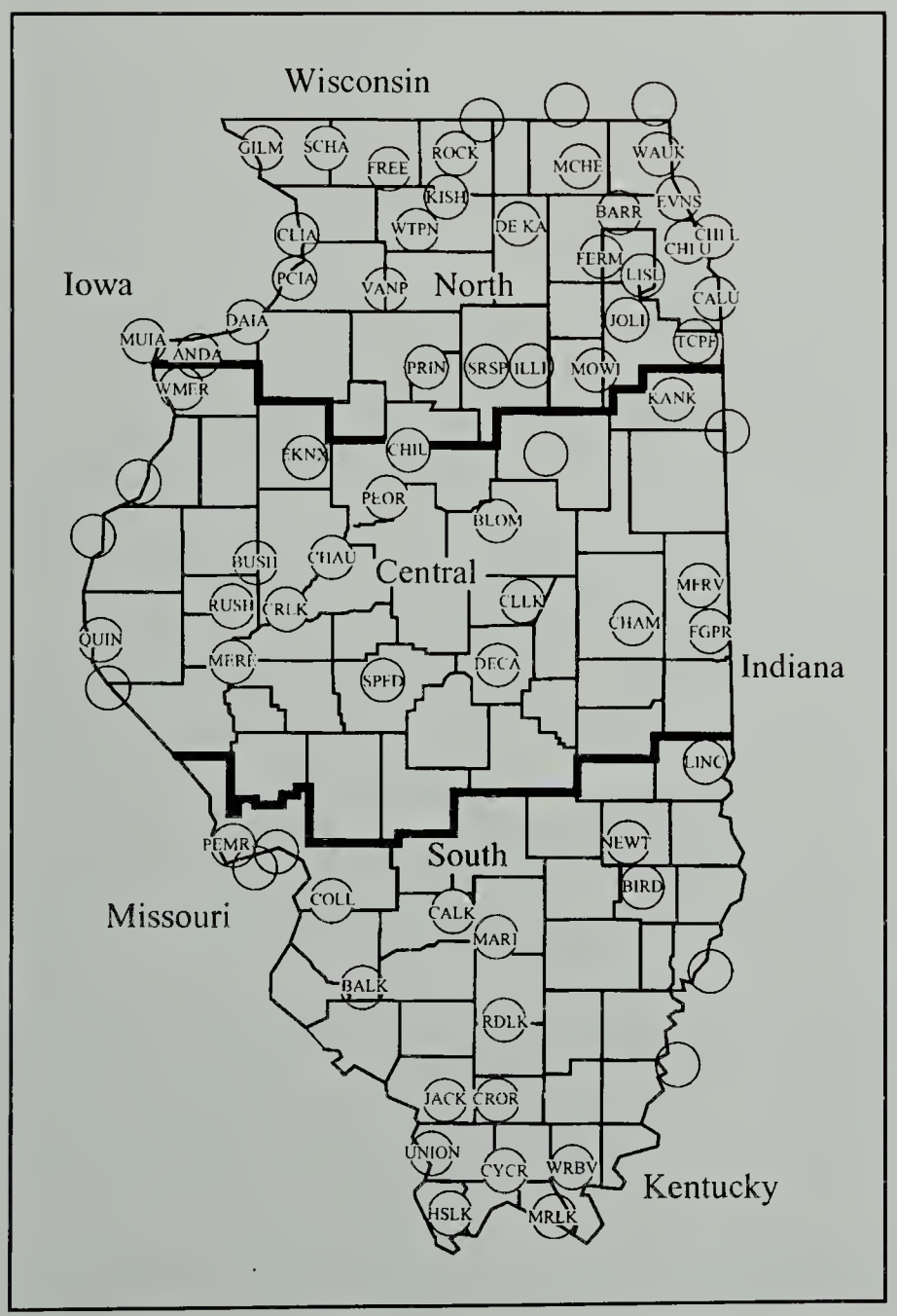
Rusty Blackbirds (807 in 22 circles) were rather sparse. Brewer's Blackbirds noted were at Peoria (1) and Green Island/Lost Mound (1). House Finches (6,082 in 62 circles) were ubiquitous. Two White-winged Crossbills were at Middle Fork River Valley, while 20 Common Redpolls were noted (in 5 circles) with the southernmost being at Chautauqua. Pine Siskin (677 in 29 circles) was the most numerous winter finch. Purple Finches were more widespread than siskins (622 in 44 circles) and in greater numbers compared with last year's 71 in 17 circles. Where are the Evening Grosbeaks? It's been 9 years since they last were reported on an Illinois CBC. Eurasian Tree Sparrows (1,448 in 17 circles) are enjoying a bit of an expansion up the Illinois River Valley and Mississippi River Valley with Clinton-Savanna IA, Princeton Camanche IA, Bloomington, and Peoria recording this species for the first time.

Spotted Towhee. Wheaton, DuPage County.
25 December 2003.
Photo by Eric Walters.

Acknowledgments

I must single out the effort of Kelly McKay, who through much diligent effort, craziness, and courage finally has managed to complete 23 counts as an observer and compiler of at least 6 circles, mostly inside Illinois but including Iowa, too. See separate article in this issue. Finally, thanks to all the compilers, observers, owlers, and feeder watchers for their continuing and inspiring efforts to contribute information on early winter bird populations and their distribution and for taking part in this grand birding tradition! Thanks to Robert A. Montgomery who helped review much of the data this year, ironing out many of the quirks and kinks and also placing the species tables in the new AOU taxonomic order. Thanks also to Steven D. Bailey who reviewed a final draft of this article.

— David B. Johnson
504 Crown Point Drive
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-1660
djohnsoda@comcast.net.



Key to Tables

Code	Description
dd	details desired
ed	excellent details
gd	good details
hc	high count for that circle
HC	All-time High Count
nc	new species to that circle's count
NC	New to the state's Count species list
nd	no details
ps	Present for some time
ph	Photographed
qd	questionable details
rn	remarkable number
rr	remarkable record
ud	unconvincing details
boldface	Species/number/item of note.

Note: 2003/2004 CBC count circles
The empty circles did not report to the Illinois CBC. Some circles bordering Illinois report to other states.

Illinois 2003/ 2004 Christmas Bird Count • Table 1

Count Name	Map I.D.	Date	Time		Temp		Sky	Snow	Water	Wind	Wind	Veloc.	Field	Feeder	Feeder	Parties	Party	Hours	Hours	Party	Miles	Miles	Owling	Owling	Compiler	Area
			Begin	End	Low	High				Direction	Low	High	Obsrv	Obsrv	Hours		Hours	on foot	by car	Miles	on foot	by car	Hours	Miles		
Andalusia	ANDA	5-Jan	545	1700	12	16	Clear	8	Partly Froz	NW	10	15	7	0	0	3-4	35	7.5	27.5	351.5	6.5	345	2	23	Kelly J. McKay	
Barrington	BARR	15-Dec	645	1630	27	37	Cloudy	0-1	Partly Open	S	12	20	33	2	4	13	80.5	60.75	19.75	323.8	55.3	268.5	0	0	Duane Heaton	
Calumet City-Sand Ridge	CALU	27-Dec	700	1600	36	49	Cloudy	0	Partly open	SW	9.3	15.5	37	8	16	18	77.5	51.75	25.75	309.3	39.3	270	0	0	Carolyn Marsh	
Chicago Lakefront	CHI L	25-Dec	700	1530	30	38	Clear; partly clear	0-1	Partly Froz	W	5	10	19	0	0	2-5	24	17.5	6.5	129	13	116	0	0	Joel Greenberg	
Chicago (urban)	CHI U	14-Dec	400	1600	25	32	Cloudy	0-2	Partly Froz	SE	0	5	24	8	8	11-13	95	71	24	568	68	500	4	3	Jeffrey Sanders	
Clinton IA	CL IA	18-Dec	330	1730	27	32	Cloudy; light snow	2	Frozen	NW	5	15	9	0	0	4	37.5	7	30.5	305.5	4.5	301	6	76	Kelly J. McKay	
Davenport IA	DA IA	14-Dec	300	1700	26	33	Cloudy; light snow	1	Partly Froz	W	0	5	17	11	14	7	63	18.5	44.5	535.5	15.5	520	8.75	73	Kelly J. McKay	
DeKalb	DEKA	14-Dec	200	1700	26	31	Cloudy	0-0.5	Partly Open	?	0	0	11	0	0	3-5	38.75	19.75	19	336	20	316	0	0	Kevin Jury	
Evanston (north shore)	EVNS	27-Dec	700	1600	28	50	Cloudy; partly cloudy	0	Partly Froz	SW	10	20	48	13	26	12	115.25	90.5	24.75	419	86	333	4.75	3	Ralph Herbst	
Fermilab-Batavia	FFRM	20-Dec	430	1700	10	29	Clear; cloudy	0	Partly Open	SW	5	12	96	3	6	9-36	169.5	143.25	26.25	595.5	125.5	470	7.5	23.5	Denis Kania	
Freeport	FREE	20-Dec	515	1615	15	29	Clear; partly cloudy	0	Partly Opeo	SW	5	10	11	4	8	2-4	26.5	3.25	23.25	385.5	4.5	381	2.25	42	Richard Benning	N
Green Island/Lost Mound	GILM	17-Dec	430	1745	15	32	Partly cloudy	0	Partly Froz	VAR	0	5	12	2	0.5	4-6	42.5	6	36.5	99	8	91	6.5	70.5	Dan Wenny	
Illini State Park	ILLI	28-Dec	515	1645	41	48	Cloudy; light rain	0	Partly Froz	SW	10	20	12	5	6	5	37.25	10.5	26.75	373.8	10.8	363	1.5	16	Jim Hampsoo	O
Joliet	JOLI	14-Dec	730	1630	22	31	Partly cloudy	0	Partly Open	NE	5	15	10	0	0	7	51	25	26	327	24.5	302.5	0	0	Jerry Olson	
Kankakee	KANK	3-Jan	445	1730	45	47	Cloudy	0	Open	SW	0	5	19	12	6.25	9-15	87.75	59.25	28.5	357.4	53.4	304	6.25	37.5	Jed Hertz	R
Kishwaukee	KISH	27-Dec	700	1700	35	50	Cloudy; partly clear	0	Partly Open	SW	20	30	28	6	12	12	88.25	46.25	42	593	56.5	536.5	2	1.5	Brad Grover	
Lisle Arboretum	LISL	14-Dec	445	1630	26	31	Cloudy	0.2-0.7	Partly Open	SW	0	8	79	6	18	22-34	165.5	123	42.5	519.5	100	419.5	12.25	26.1	Geoffrey A. Williamson	T
McHenry County	MCHE	20-Dec	700	1700	12	30	Mostly clear	0	Partly Open	SW	0	15	39	0	0	13	73.25	30	43.25	523.75	29.75	494	3	16	David A. Frey	
Morris-Wilmington	MOWI	4-Jan	730	1630	30	33	Cloudy	0-3	Partly Froz	E	10	25	7	1	2	6	32.5	8.5	24	305	11.5	293.5	0	0	Jerry Olson	H
Muscatine IA-IL City	MU IA	4-Jan	500	1715	22	26	Cloudy; heavy snow	8	Partly Open	NNE	10	20	10	8	12	4	36.25	6.25	20	323.75	7.75	316	0	0	Kelly J. McKay	
Hennepin (formerly--Princeton)	HENN	14-Dec	515	1630	27	28	Cloudy	1	Partly Open	W	0	10	7	0	0	3	24	8	16	201	7	194	1.5	14.5	John McKee	
Princeton-Camanche IA	PC IA	23-Dec	430	1715	29	35	Partly clear; cloudy	0	Partly Open	NW	5	20	3	0	0	3	23.75	4.5	19.25	205	4	201	0	0	Kelly J. McKay	
Rockford	ROCK	20-Dec	700	1630	13	31	Clear; partly cloudy	0	Partly Froz	SW	0	10	41	5	8	14-22	112.5	70.75	41.75	611.3	80.3	531	3.25	28	Daniel T. Williams	
Schaumburg	SCHA	14-Dec	730	1800	20	32	Foggy; cloudy	0	Partly Froz	Calm	0	2	20	3	4	6	38	3	35	337	7	330	1	0	Terrence N. Ingram	
Starved Rock State Park	SRSP	1-Jan	330	1700	28	46	Cloudy	0	Open	SE	8	14	11	2	4	7	55.5	27.25	28.25	358	31	327	3.5	55.5	John McKee	
Thorn Creek-Park Forest	TCPF	28-Dec	715	1500	41	50	Cloudy; light rain	0	Open	W	5	10	26	11	7	12	45.75	15.75	30	300.5	17.5	283	0	0	Jim Kelly	
Van Petten	VANP	24-Dec	500	1715	19	24	Clear	0	Partly Open	NW	5	15	6	0	0	3	21.25	2	19.25	199.75	1.75	198	2	16	Kelly J. McKay	
Waukegan	WAUK	1-Jan	500	1700	32	39	Partly clear	0	Partly Open	SW	6	6	24	47	135	11-12	81	68	13	338	72	266	4.5	23	Joel Greenberg	
White Pines	WTPN	20-Dec	800	1630	15	32	Partly cloudy	0-0.5	Partly Froz	NW	5	15	4	0	0	2	19.5	9	10.5	135	4.8	130	0	0	Jerry McCormick	
Bloomington-Normal	BLOM	14-Dec	700	1630	23	28	Cloudy	3-Jan	Partly Open	W	0	5	15	0	0	6	40	29	11	159	22	137	0	0	Dale Birkenholz	
Bushnell	BUSH	20-Dec	700	1700	11	34	Partly cloudy	0.5	Partly Open	S	8	10	10	0	0	5	40.75	10.25	30.5	351.3	11.8	339.5	0	0	Larry Hood	C
Champaign County	CHAM	20-Dec	500	1715	11	27	Clear	1	Partly Open	W	0	3	23	4	3	7-10	48.5	35.5	13	208	30.5	177.5	3	2	Helen M. Parker	
Chautauqua N.W.R.	CHAU	27-Dec	445	1700	35	55	Cloudy; partly cloudy	0	Partly Open	S	10	25	18	1	1.5	6-7	54.25	22.25	32	349	22.8	326.2	1	3	Richard & Sigurd Bjorklund	E
Chillicothe	CHIL	3-Jan	630	1630	36	44	Partly cloudy; cloudy	0	Opeo	VAR	0	5	19	0	0	8	65.75	23.5	42.25	497.5	18	479.5	0	0	Tracy Meints Fox	
Clinton Lake	CLLK	14-Dec	515	1630	18	30	Partly clear; partly cloudy	1	Partly Froz	N	5	15	13	0	0	7	47.75	28.75	19	306.5	23.5	283	2.75	9	Myrna Deaton	N
Crane Lake-Sangamon	CRLK	20-Dec	630	1500	11	26	Clear	0	Open	Calm	0	0	11	0	0	5	27.75	11.5	16.25	171	12	159	0	0	Robert Randall	
Decatur	DECA	20-Dec	700	1700	7	26	Clear	0	Partly Froz	NW	5	8	23	3	4.75	11	34.75	15.25	19.5	204	12.5	191.5	0	0	Ross Thompson	T
Eastern Knox County	EKNX	14-Dec	400	1700	25	28	Cloudy	2	Partly Open	?	2	9	13	0	0	7	43.5	20	23.5	340	20	320	6.25	?	Jim Mountjoy	
Forest Glen Preserve	FGPR	27-Dec	630	1700	34	50	Clear	0	Partly Froz	S	15	20	14	1	1.5	7	55	44	11	221.5	33	188.5	1.5	5	Marilyn F. Campbell	R
Meredosia Island	MERE	18-Dec	645	1630	24	36	Cloudy; light rain & snow	1	Open	SE	5	10	9	0	0	5	43	15	28	320	14	306	0	0	Tooy Ward	
Middle Fork River Valley	MFRV	17-Dec	400	1715	20	33	Partly cloudy; partly clear	0	Partly Open	W	0	7	15	5	10	11	73.25	52.5	20.75	441	42	399	2.5	30	Steven D. Bailey	A
Peoria	PEOR	20-Dec	700	1630	8	27	Clear; partly cloudy	0-2	Partly Opeo	VAR	0	5	23	1	8	8	65	19	46	512	16	496	0	0	L. H. Princen	
Quincy	QUIN	20-Dec	630	1615	23	45	Partly Cloudy; clear	0	Partly Froz	S	5	10	13	1	2	6	43.5	6.5	37	326	5.5	320.5	0.5	1	Ken Vail	L
Rushville	RUSH	3-Jan	800	1700	37	26	Cloudy	0	Open	SW	15	15	2	13	20	2	8	2	6	43	3	40	0	0	Harold E. Hedden	
Springfield	SPFD	14-Dec	430	1700	23	28	Cloudy, foggy; cloudy	2	Partly Open	W	3	10	14	5	10	8-10	67	35.5	31.5	480	32	448	6.5	25	H. David Bohlen	
Western Mercer Co.	WMER	19-Dec	500	1730	25	29	Cloudy; clear	0	Partly Open	NW	15	25	9	0	0	3-4	37.5	4.75	32.75	269.3	6.3	263	4	39	Kelly J. McKay	
Baldwin Lake-Kaskaskia	BALK	20-Dec	415	1630	23	41	Clear	0	Partly Froz	S	5	8	11	4	4.25	6-8	39.84	23.46	16.38	244.85	16.55	228.3	1.73	0.1	Tim Dever	
Bird Haven Sanct.-Olney	BIRD	20-Dec	645	1730	16	33	Clear	0.25	Partly Froz	NW	5	10	15	1	3	8	57.5	10.25	47.25	454.25	11.25	443	0	0	Frank E. Storment	
Carlyle Lake	CALK	15-Dec	000	1700	27	42	Clear; partly cloudy	0	Open	SE	15	20	13	0	0	6	63	28	35	580.5	25.5	555	6	100	Dan Kassebaum	
Collinsville	COLL	27-Dec	500	1600	35	61	Clear; partly cloudy	0	Open	SE	10	18	9	0	0	5	42.5	18	24.5	394.5	15.5	379	2	10	Joan Hendrickson	S
Crab Orchard N.W.R.	CROR	20-Dec	600	1600	21	39	Clear	0	Partly Froz	S	0	9	14	0	0	6	58.5	23	35.5	377	21	356	4	12	Tracy R. Evans	
Cypress Creek	CYCR	15-Dec	600	1730	29	51	Clear; cloudy	0	Open	S	5	15	41	0	0	13	108.25	72.75	35.5	493.9	80.5	413.4	1.5	1	Jeff Hoover	O
Horseshoe Lake	HSLK	29-Dec	630	1700	37	49	Cloudy	0	Open	S	0	5	10	0	0	7	56.25	27.75	28.5	261.5	17.5	244	0.75	2	Vernoo Kleen	
Jackson County	JACK	1-Jan	715	1645	44	59	Cloudy	0	Open	SW	5.8	20	15	2	2.25	7	63.5	32.5	31	416.3	28.6	387.7	8.25	52	Rhonda S. Rothrock (Monroe)	U
Lincoln Trail State Park	LINC	14-Dec	700	1645	10	27	Clear	1-5	Partly Froz	W	0	5	18	1	2	7	36	5.5	30.5	295.5	4.5	291	0	0	Charlotte Connerton	
Marion Co. Kaskaskia Audubon	MARI	27-Dec	645	1710	29	45	Partly cloudy; clear	0	Partly Froz	VAR	0	1	6	0	0	2	24.7	9.5	15.2	150.2	4	146.2	0	0	Joseph E. Merkelbach	T
Mermet Lake, Massac Co.	MRLK	31-Dec	130	1730	30	57	Clear	0	Open	SW	0	10	11	0	0	6	61	23	38	421	19	402	5	20	Frank Bennett	
Newton	NEWT	19-Dec	630	1645	23	30	Cloudy; partly clear	0-1	Open	NW	10	20	12	0	0	3-5	46.5	20	26.5	477	17	460	0	0	Jeffery W. Walk	H
Pere Marquette Park	PEMR	20-Dec	800	1630	25	39	Partly cloudy; clear	0	Partly Froz	N	5	10	22	0	0	8	52.25	21	31.25	306.5	30	276.5	0	0	Robert Thomas	
Reed Lake	RDLK	20-Dec	000	1700	28	35	Clear: partly cloudy	0	Open	SE	5	5	11	0	0	7	53	18	35	413	12	401	14	136	Keith A. McMullen	
Union County	UNION	30-Dec	400	1730	21	39	Clear	0	Open	N	3	8	15	0	0	11	96.25	58	38.25	455.8	33.8	422	3.5	15	Vernon Kleen	
Warbluff Valley Sanctuary	WRBV	21-Dec	600	1715	31	54	Clear	0	Partly Froz	VAR	0	7	17	4	6	6	52.25	21.25	31	271.5	14.5	257	0.5	0	Andrea Douglas	
					24.742	37							1154	203	375		3504.5	1801	1693.6	21579	1641.8	19937	157.7	1010.2		
					Avg Lo	Avg Hi							Total	Total	Total		Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total		

	North Counts																					
Species	WAUK	EVNS	CHIU	CHIL	CALU	MCHE	BARR	FERM	LISL	TCPF	JOLI	KANK	DEKA	MOWI	ILLI	ROCK	KISH	SRSP	FREE	WTPN	HENN	TOTALS
Tundra Swan																cw					7 nc hc	7
Mute Swan	27	3	1		74	1	65 hc	5	1	2	35	2										216
Greater White-fronted Goose																				1 nc hc		1
Snow Goose	2	2	1	1		4	1	7	1				1		3							23
Ross's Goose								1								1						2
Canada Goose	18057	5970	1725	1782	2506 hc	16424 hc	17642	18510	7747		8935 hc	1383	1940	585	2084	9458	11463 hc	1592	24	3025	1269	134741
(small races)							100															100
Wood Duck	1	1	2		0		1	2	5		3											15
Green-winged Teal	1		1				3				13										3	21
American Black Duck	75	8	10		21		8	15	17		18	12	1	2	512	5	11	3		2	5	725
Mallard	2000	1611	1280	84	1560	565	904	3066	1661	1629	1125	474	1557 hc	536	41141 hc	586	5972 hc	304	253 hc	245	218 hc	66771
Northern Pintail						2							1		1						19 hc	23
Northern Shoveler	8 hc								12		16 hc				1						6	43
Gadwall	38	15	2		46		5		228		79	4		11	28			3			78	537
American Wigeon			1						3						51 hc						3	58
Canvasback	3	2				2 hc			0								1 hc			9 nc hc	21 hc	38
Redhead	34	179 HC			2																	215
Ring-necked Duck		1	1		9	8	cw		1				1	30						1 nc	55	107
Greater Scaup	3172 hc	6899 HC		128																		10199
Lesser Scaup	77	13	2	1	6	2		1												1 nc	15 hc	118
scaup sp.		4175 hc																				4175
Surf Scoter	4 hc	1																				5
White-winged Scoter	1	3																				4
Black Scoter	2 hc	1															1 ed					4
Long-tailed Duck	11	4																				15
Bufflehead	157 hc		5	34	15	1		2 hc	1			2									10 hc	227
Common Goldeneye	250	1198	84	235	42	6	54	15	6		6	11		15	135			11			0	2068
Hooded Merganser	31 hc	11	4	6 hc	52 hc	1	6	2	7		110 hc	4		1	30		2					267
Common Merganser	81	38		87	37	12 hc		20 hc	8		32			3	6002		1	85			15	6421
Red-breasted Merganser	24	397	7	388	9									2								827
Ruddy Duck							2 hc	1						2							5 hc	10
duck sp.								1	7								4					12
Gray Partridge																1						1
Ring-necked Pheasant					3	7	2	12	1	8	2	43 hc	12	1	20	17	4	4	3	4		143
Wild Turkey									2			2			9	206 hc	24	1		5	23	272
Northern Bobwhite												48										48
Common Loon		1		3 hc	3 hc																	7
Pied-billed Grebe	1		1		6	1								2	2							13
Horned Grebe		1																				1
Double-crested Cormorant			2	3 hc	9		cw		cw		17			25	18			2				76
Great Blue Heron (Blue form)	4	14 hc	14 hc	1	13	7	11	21	35 hc	1	19	2	2	14	12	5	4 hc	22			30 hc	231
Black-crowned Night-Heron			1		34 HC																	35
Bald Eagle									2			1		1	7	5	11	20			38	85
adults									1					1	2	5	10	15			20	54
immatures									1			1			2		1	5			17	27
unknowns															3						1	4
Northern Harrier					3 hc	5 hc	4	15	1	25	1		1	2	11	8		1		4	14 hc	95
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	6	1		1	2		3	8 hc	3	2	2		1	1	3	3	5 hc		1		45
Cooper's Hawk	4	12	14 hc	2 hc	7	5	2	27 HC	20 hc	7	6 hc	4	3	4	6 hc	12 hc	3	1	4 hc			143
Northern Goshawk											1											1
Accipiter sp.								6	1													7
Red-shouldered Hawk		1			1			1	1			1				1	cw					6
Red-tailed Hawk	52	34	16	2	52	65	72	108	100	47	47	47	22	14	41	101	62	49	40	22	53	1046
Rough-legged Hawk		15 hc			1	2			2	9	3	1		2	3	3	2	2	4	4	6	59
Golden Eagle								1 ed														1
American Kestrel	10	15	8	2	22	7	4	26	25	24	19	32	26	8	24	22	25	33	10	8	14	364
Merlin	1 hb		1 ed						0							1 ed						3
Peregrine Falcon	1	1	3		4 HC			1 ed			1											11
American Coot	5		5	23	141	13	21	1	2		8	11		46	3		7			1 nc	436	723
Sandhill Crane			cw				cw	1	122 hc													123
Killdeer																					2	2
Wilson's Snipe		1				1	1									10 hc					1	15
Bonaparte's Gull		1	12												8							21
Ring-billed Gull	1270	1232	652	1485	1116	82	260	336	598	28	272	84 hc	4	523	232		41	885		5	87	9192
Herring Gull	232	107	30	176	1923	2	15	423	91		8	11		44	8	22	151	61			12	3316
Thayer's Gull	1	1	1	3				1														7
Iceland Gull								1 ed														1
Lesser Black-backed Gull					2			1														3
Great Black-backed Gull					2																	2
gull sp.							24	60	22	10							5					121
Rock Pigeon	331	769	1800	250	1160	275	400	935	1538	328	625	469 hc	244	39	116	1219	618	183	436	156	77	11968
Ringed Turtle-Dove									10		62	1										73
Eurasian Collared-Dove			2																		4 nc	6
Streptopelia sp.									3													3
Mourning Dove	840	593	467 hc	4	410	218	174	940	1264 hc	1187	774	780 hc	133	190	218	580	453	65	125	44	185	9644
Monk Parakeet			14 hc	53 hc	102 HC																	169

	North Counts																				
Species	WAUK	EVNS	CHI U	CHI L	CALU	MCHE	BARR	FERM	LISL	TCPF	JOLI	KANK	DEKA	MOWI	ILLI	ROCK	KISH	SRSP	FREE	WTPN	HENN	TOTALS
Barn Owl																					1 nc ps	1
Eastern Screech-Owl	13	12	15			3	1	13	26			13	14		1	10	3			3	5	132
Great Horned Owl	6	12	8		3	4	9	23	28	4	4	27 hc	13 hc		1	15	7	4	5	2	3	178
Barred Owl									1 hc			2	4 hc		1	9	5	4	8 hc	1	4	39
Long-eared Owl	1						1	4		16		4 hc										26
Short-eared Owl	1					1		2		12 hc			1							0	17 hc	34
Northern Saw-whet Owl									1							1	1					3
owl sp.																3						3
Belted Kingfisher	13 hc	9	3		10 hc	4	5	8	14	1	6	8	4	2	1	8	17	3	2 hc	2	5	125
Red-headed Woodpecker	7	5	2	0	15		1	3	5	11	3	48 hc	3	1	3	15	2	14	1	9	1	149
Red-bellied Woodpecker	105	116 hc	68		21	36	63 hc	172 hc	220 hc	40	36	90 hc	58	24	46 hc	172 hc	111 hc	60 hc	22	48	38	1546
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	2	12		1		cw	6 hc	11 hc			5 hc				6 hc	2 hc	1	1	2 hc		51
Downy Woodpecker	195	146	153	4	60	86	85	260	341 hc	41	46	103 hc	49	19	56	214	143	71	30	28	44	2174
Hairy Woodpecker	52	48	39		6	7	15	36	67 hc	6	6	15		1	12	32	23	9	4	10	5	393
Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker	21 hc	14	12		4	1	10	36	92 hc	35		32 hc	7 hc		48 hc	42	39	21	7	7	22	459
Pileated Woodpecker																2		1		1	3 hc	7
Northern Shrike	5		3 hc		3 hc	5 hc	2	**10 HC**	2	1				0	1	3	2			1		38
Blue Jay	276 hc	159 hc	141 hc		94	141	107	326 hc	690 hc	94	37	242 hc	83 hc	29	114 hc	299 hc	171	110	59	109	56	3337
American Crow	480	853	212	93	205	362	138	199	112	51	92	687	205	22	96	1464	4528	88	183	196	74	10340
Horned Lark	20						8	5		50	20	86	61	90	26	7	48	38	7		58	524
Black-capped Chickadee	641	224	178	8	71	250	249	779	635	39	62	84 hc	126	55	152	616	345	146	47	131	60	4898
Tufted Titmouse	5 hc		3		5			7	11	4	6	35		3	37	49	34	12	4	30	13	258
Brown Creeper	5	5	41	2	1	6	4	27	35	4	5	27 hc	2	4	14	22	44	22		6	6	282
Red-breasted Nuthatch	61 hc	13	20 hc		6	15	4	22	60 hc	8	1	4	4	0		16	11		8	1		254
White-breasted Nuthatch	156 hc	51	53 hc		20	60	46	98	221 hc	55	14	63	61	12	57 hc	231	136	80	17	66	26	1523
Carolina Wren	1	1	1	2	3		cw	3	10	1	7	40 hc			16 hc	1 hc	1	32 hc		1	10	130
Winter Wren	2	1	1				2	4	1		1	1 hc				3	3	3				22
Marsh Wren															1 ed							1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	5	6	7 hc	1	2	2	1		3			5				1	1			1	0	35
Ruby-crowned Kinglet								1	4 hc													5
Eastern Bluebird	15 hc	4	3			7	14 hc	14 hc	42 hc			11 hc				32		5	3 hc		6	156
Hermit Thrush	3	3	7	2 hc			2	3 hc	7 hc		1	1				1		1	1 hc	1	1 hc	34
American Robin	263	718	1610		61	50	130	263	3022 hc	4	41	25	1	12	5	19	4	115 hc			0	6343
Gray Catbird			0	2 hc ed		1			2 hc													5
Northern Mockingbird										1		1						1				3
Brown Thrasher			1																			1
American Pipit		**1 ph**																				1
Cedar Waxwing	547 hc	456	151	2	8	24	481	319	897 hc	8	13	15				70	307			8	13	3319
European Starling	1256	3543	2300	830 hc	2963	932	1713	6608 hc	5797	3081	1780	2700	2614 hc	955	6181 hc	3001	8846 hc	3680	1134	492	955	61361
Orange-crowned Warbler		**1 ed nc**																				1
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler	5	22	27	cw		4 hc	10	8	102 hc			20 hc		6	1	1						206
Pine Warbler	**1 nc**								**1 nc**													2
Common Yellowthroat			1 ed																			1
Spotted Towhee			cw					1 ed														1
Eastern Towhee									1						1							2
American Tree Sparrow	758	98	45		176	344	539	1571	1076	360	130	387 hc	72	75	276	723	373	373	111	364	509	8360
Field Sparrow	1	1				2						2 hc	1			2	3					12
Savannah Sparrow																					4 nc	4
Grasshopper Sparrow									**1 RR PH**													1
Le Conte's Sparrow																					cw	cw
Fox Sparrow	3 hc	1	1		1	1	2	13	30 hc		3			0	5	1	9 hc	16 hc			2	88
Song Sparrow	29	16	4	2	32	24	31	134	138	10	29	64 hc	36	4	31	78	32	45	3	34	44	820
Lincoln's Sparrow			cw					1 gd	1						1 hc							3
Swamp Sparrow	8	1	1	2 hc		8	1	17	49	5	7	21 hc			7	36	2	10		6	12	193
White-throated Sparrow	55 hc	48	115	4	14	24	84	184	315 hc	8	35	66 hc	3	14	26 hc	30	45	61 hc	1	1	3	1136
White-crowned Sparrow		3	1		2		9	12	4	14	1	28 hc		7	1	1	3	31 hc		1	51 hc	169
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	967 hc	487	529 hc	37 hc	358	586	903	985	1374	247	227	547		112	336	1157	804	595	216	159	226	11043
Oregon Junco					2												1					3
Lapland Longspur										750	10	76										836
Snow Bunting	4	83			40			14		85					135					3		364
Northern Cardinal	386	339	301	22	148	186	319	836 hc	659 hc	91	141	343	164	81	166	426	298	204	59	98	118	5385
Red-winged Blackbird	526		2		68	1	131	76	67	71	7	42	1	6	463			16533 hc		26 hc	2	18022
Eastern Meadowlark		1										3			4			8				16
Rusty Blackbird															5	2					23	30
Common Grackle	6	1	1		6	6			9	2	2	3		301	87		1	1542	1		1	1969
Brown-headed Cowbird			1		88	3				8		954 hc	5 hc	20	1795	2	49	1223	1	161 hc	11	4321
blackbird sp.									40													40
Purple Finch	2	3				2	2	3	27							25	15 hc	11		5	2	97
House Finch	304	144	252	3	117	172	135	339	156	64	103	304 hc	196	49	82 hc	**720 HC**	319	22	38	67	54	3640
Common Redpoll		6	7																			13
Pine Siskin	80	10	24			26	43	23	101	4	13	5 hc	0		1	83	95	10	35	16 hc		569
American Goldfinch	704 hc	453	248	31	319	130	209	395	715 hc	118	64	185	40	56	56	493 hc	248	109	31	26	46	4676
House Sparrow	1543	1148	2150	134	823	523	1707	1052	1258	593	355	1753	383	126	1043	1386	1052	746	1067	742	529	20113
Total Individuals	36350	32605	14924	5934	15150	21759	26997	39484	32034	11925	15549	12608	8350	4196	62118	23796	37051	29392	4005	6403	5774	446404
Total Species	82	82	78	42	70	66	62	79	81	53	64	71	45	54	71	67	63	62	39	57	71	

	North Counts							*Central Counts*														
Species	VANP	SCHA	GILM	CL IA	PC IA	DA IA	ANDA	MU IA	MFRV	FGPR	CHAM	BLOM	CLLK	DECA	CHIL	PEOR	EKNX	CHAU	CRLK	SPFD	MERE	BUSH	TOTALS
Tundra Swan			35			2			1									51					89
Trumpeter Swan					4												4 hc						8
Mute Swan									3 hc			1				1		52 hc		17 hc			74
Greater White-fronted Goose														0	2		3 hc	1471 hc	29				1505
Snow Goose									1						0	30	1	50		76	105 hc		263
Ross's Goose														0					1				1
Canada Goose	821	71 hc	659	1032	880	4270	432	369	1310	386 hc	130	1755	1045	1741	1491	883	8569 hc	9905	322	1215	2089	87	39462
Wood Duck	4					3			1	2				0					1	5	1	2 hc	19
Green-winged Teal						4		2			2		14					5			8		35
American Black Duck				21	1	3		1	15			5	9	4	2	3	1	30		7	4		106
Mallard	401	5	219	641	452	2041	63	548	3652 hc	190 hc	76	1295	3400	2258	3228	323	570 hc	23079	3755	1242	5935		53373
Northern Pintail										3 hc					1			11		1	5		21
Northern Shoveler						12		1	5 hc			5	1			9		5		22	32		92
Gadwall	13			3		7	1	5	6			8	73	41	154	96 hc	30 hc	78		4	35		554
American Wigeon			1			2			0			1		2						0	17 hc		23
Canvasback					35	11	2 hc	1								1		1		53	2		106
Redhead			1		1															3			5
Ring-necked Duck				3	23	38			4			3	20				6 hc	150	25	1	47		320
Greater Scaup						1 gd							3					2 hc		0	2 hc		8
Lesser Scaup	7			505	4	295							8			1	5 hc	7	13	15	110		970
Long-tailed Duck						2							1										3
White-winged Scoter					2 ed	2 ed																	4
Bufflehead	1			1		2			1			2	5					20 hc		3	16		51
Common Goldeneye	93		2	2511	2800	783	35	11	6				170	8	12	12	8 hc	13	4	405	3		6876
Hooded Merganser	2				4				34 hc				26	7			1	26	12	129	3		244
Common Merganser	9		14	2579	27	24	28 hc	2	6 hc			1	12		4	392	35 hc	201	1	20	54		3409
Red-breasted Merganser									3				20 hc					5		6	3		37
Ruddy Duck						1	1		2								2 hc	0	2	89 hc	44		141
Gray Partridge	6																						6
Ring-necked Pheasant	5	28 hc	5	13	4	15			1		55	3	26	3	1		15 hc	7		1		1	183
Wild Turkey		274	35	126	142	10		6	11	5		1	51 hc				13 hc	1	12	7		18 hc	712
Northern Bobwhite				1	16	1							2	29		1		12	1	20	1	10	94
Pacific Loon																				1 ph ps			1
Common Loon																				4			4
Pied-billed Grebe									2		1	2	5			1				23	1		35
Horned Grebe													5							2			7
Red-necked Grebe									1 rr ed														1
American White Pelican																		5					5
Double-crested Cormorant					2	20			3 hc			2 hc	2					23		1			53
Great Blue Heron (blue form)	2	1	2	46		6		10	17 hc	7	0	1	30	9	24	22	2	121	19	33 hc	24	2	378
Turkey Vulture									5	1										12 hc			18
Bald Eagle	20	13 hc	215	157	139	138	105 hc	45	3 hc	1		1	0	3	51	53 hc		98	45	0	65	3 hc	1155
adults	9	7	104	70	89	89	58	30	2					2	39	43		56	30		26	1	655
immatures	11	6	108	40	41	47	32	8	1	1				1	12	9		39	15		39	2	412
unknowns			3	47	9	2	15	7				1				1		3					88
Northern Harrier	3	1	8	10	1	3			1	2	1	1	3		3		9 hc	11	9	3	27 hc	8 hc	104
Sharp-shinned Hawk		5 hc	1	1	1	2	1	1	3	2	2		4	1	2	2		6 hc	2	2	3		41
Cooper's Hawk	4	5 hc	2	2	1	9	1		5	3	4	4 hc	4 hc		8 hc	1	1	6 hc	2	6	3	5 hc	76
Northern Goshawk		cw								1 gd													1
large Accipiter sp.																	1						1
Accipiter sp.																						1	1
Red-shouldered Hawk			1						1	1	0		1					2		0			6
Red-tailed Hawk	21	90	72	48	19	64	17	8	24	33	29	23	35	16	58	49	45 hc	59	39	37	42	48 hc	876
Rough-legged Hawk		13	14	12	3	2	1	1	2		3	4 hc	3		1	1	6 hc	3	3		1	5 hc	78
Golden Eagle																		1					1
Buteo sp.											1					1							2
hawk sp.			3																				3
American Kestrel	6	23	14	23	23	48	10	6	20	18	10	20	33	8	41	17	17	32 hc	18	38	28	23	476
Merlin													1 nc										1
small falcon sp.																	1						1
Peregrine Falcon										1 nc													1
American Coot		2 hc nc	1		1	18	2 nc					32	37	17		10		22		14			156
Sandhill Crane												1 nc			1								2
Killdeer			1	3		4				2			0			3	1			3	2		19
Wilson's Snipe				8	1	1					2					1							13
American Woodcock										1													1
Bonaparte's Gull													265					10		180			455
Ring-billed Gull	56		315	69	351	6388	750	107	864 hc	300 hc	0	154	2500	1201	976	7022	1	1445	18	3424	312		26253
Herring Gull	481		149	3	65	743	2	19	16 hc				12	13	3	99		57		34	1		1697
Thayer's Gull			1		1	1																	3
Lesser Black-backed Gull																1							1
Great Black-backed Gull									1 rr ed														1

	North Counts							Central Counts														
Species	VANP	SCHA	GILM	CL IA	PC IA	DA IA	ANDA	MU IA	MFRV	FGPR	CHAM	BLOM	CLLK	DECA	CHIL	PEOR	EKNX	CHAU	CRLK	SPFD	MERE	BUSH	TOTALS
Rock Pigeon	293	325	260	275	76	837	31	31	160	102	925	154 hc	20	182	77	471	80	54	37	889	21	63	5363
Eurasian Collared-Dove																		17 hc			1 nc		18
Mourning Dove	125	427 hc	127	159	351	798	121	343	170	56	443	210	600 hc	107	699 hc	239	313 hc	101	146	908	54	664 hc	7161
Eastern Screech-Owl	3	0	6	7	5	4	3	1	4	7 hc	5	1	2		1	1	6	5	1	10	1	1	74
Great Horned Owl	8	2	14	2	6	9	3	4	7	6	7	4	15	5	3	1	19 hc	2	8	18	5	3	151
Barred Owl	3	cw	6	1		7	1	3	13	9	2	4 hc	8	3	3	1	24 hc	4		12 hc	2	2 hc	108
Long-eared Owl			15	1				1	1											1			19
Short-eared Owl	3										1										7 hc		11
Northern Saw-whet Owl									2 hc		1												3
Belted Kingfisher	1	1	8	1	3	8	2	4	12 hc	5	3	1	5	2	6	6	4	11	3	4			90
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	4	16	4	8	6	9	3	45 hc	38	3	31 hc	10	12	22	7	52 hc	3	2	23	2	17	318
Red-bellied Woodpecker	12	58 hc	94	52	27	112	36	39	106	116	59	47 hc	75 hc	94 hc	89	63	66 hc	76	64	172 hc	61	46	1564
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		1	3	1	1	2	1	2	11 hc	7	8 hc	1	3 hc	0	1	4	3 hc	2	2	14	4		71
Downy Woodpecker	31	74 hc	95	93	44	169	33	67	133	63	69	88	124 hc	73	106	71	73	60	40	125	71	33	1735
Hairy Woodpecker	4	11	28	12	19	16	11	17	14	10	3	3	10	10	15	11	8	17	9	15	17	1	261
Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker	2	13 hc	48	28	6	26	18	9	79 hc	57 hc	72 hc	15	60	74	66 hc	35 hc	20	54	32	142	36	18 hc	910
Pileated Woodpecker		1	7	4	1	1	4	1	30 hc	32	4			5	7 hc	3	1	12	21	17 hc	22 hc	1	174
woodpecker sp.																	10						10
Northern Shrike	1	1	3		1			3									2 hc	1 gd					12
Blue Jay	47	281 hc	245	240	124	269	74	79	464	453 hc	183	168 hc	554 hc	169	254	123	140 hc	147	55	290	146	114	4619
American Crow	986	354	346	131	82	942	84	20	168400	24964 hc	222	1112	100	106	343	563	436 hc	515	201	5339	314	92	205652
Horned Lark	60	58	1	360	2	15	242	285	29	39	127	303	265	34	13		187 hc	16	9	100	2	75	2222
Carolina Chickadee				209					172	160	49												590
Black-capped Chickadee	27	88	300		106	482	127	130			1	67	198	52	349	178	133 hc	94	70	138	125	25	2690
Tufted Titmouse	2	16	66	30	12	39	22	19	119	141	23	6	37	31	83	52	31 hc	38	18	131	55	4	975
Red-breasted Nuthatch			1			7			3	6	4		1	1				1		7	13		44
White-breasted Nuthatch	12	60	129	85	48	173	49	56	147	143	22	57 hc	65	20	129	65	67	57	32	111	61	23	1611
Brown Creeper	4	1	10	9	9	12	1	1	6	11	10	7	3	3	11	3	1	6		29	10	1	148
Carolina Wren			2	5		9		2	31	35	32	5	27	10	16	9	11 hc	17	27	67	31		336
Winter Wren			4	1		1	1		2	3		1		1				1	2	4			21
Marsh Wren																		1 ed					1
Golden-crowned Kinglet				3		3	1		6	4	7		14					5		6	1		50
Ruby-crowned Kinglet										1			2			2		1	1	3			10
Eastern Bluebird		26 hc	87	32	2	2		3	76	48	16	15	25 hc	11	105 hc	15	22	57	39	20	61	19	681
Hermit Thrush			3	1	1	1	3 hc	2	7 hc	5 hc	33 hc	3 hc	2	1				2	1	11 hc	6		82
American Robin		240	14	1		22			79	112	389	34	20	125	397	169 hc	1	330	15	356	155	11	2470
Gray Catbird						1 ad				1 ed	1 ed									1			4
Northern Mockingbird			2				1			1	2	3 hc	5	3	5		1	4	3	18	4	3 hc	55
Brown Thrasher									1			1		0						1			3
American Pipit											5 hc ed										35 hc		40
Cedar Waxwing		410	386	30	2	213	15	2	161	213	78	20	95	11	166	2	24 hc	65	100	24	9	5	2031
European Starling	777	982	310	1980	1340	3839	355	955	1264	464	1578	6878 hc	1200	4242	4615	2297	1183	1926	625	17142	512	1539	56003
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler			5	4			1	4	9	5	21 hc	1	22 hc	4 hc	9	1	2	1	3	13	4		109
Common Yellowthroat																					1 gd		1
Eastern Towhee						1	1 gd		17 hc	5 hc		1		6 hc		1							32
American Tree Sparrow	185	264	170	741	135	870	182	121	329	48	178	51	342	520	91	171	406	326	288	117	195	256	5986
Chipping Sparrow			1 ed																				1
Field Sparrow			1								1		4						1	0	1		8
Savannah Sparrow											3										5		8
Fox Sparrow						1			2	6	4	2	4	1		1	1		6	19	4		51
Song Sparrow	8	8	14	79	43	135	16	8	53	24	65	10	43	49	17	34	22	58	71	78	163	13	1011
Lincoln's Sparrow																					1		1
Swamp Sparrow			4	28	6	9		1	29	5	1	3	9	73		1	7	23	7	8	40		254
White-throated Sparrow	3	2	4	3		75	11	20	173 hc	58	231	53	65 hc	77	22	33	8	58	19	168	66 hc		1149
White-crowned Sparrow	1			2		3	2	1	6	6	1			24	1	71	4	24	37	27	36	6	252
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	241	669	529	331	279	1007	350	412	555	288	264	259	237	295	386	597	383	538	219	522	260	207	8828
Lapland Longspur			1	62	1	1	32	9	8			46	13				28		65			4	270
Snow Bunting		0		6				2					2										10
Northern Cardinal	53	139	244	180	72	662	227 hc	270	266	248	413	187	208	196	205	271	174 hc	249	221	426	158	135	5204
Rose-breasted Grosbeak																					1 ed		1
Red-winged Blackbird	30	0	125	321	2	3001	402		65	20		150 hc	46		2		41 hc	9	59	1005	125	7	5410
Eastern Meadowlark									2		3		0				4 hc	1		1	6		17
meadowlark sp.	30																						30
Rusty Blackbird	15		4			9					5		2				2 hc	10		27	5		79
Brewer's Blackbird		cw	1 gd													1 nc dd							2
Common Grackle		cw				1	1				2	2	1	2		1		2		521	209		742
Brown-headed Cowbird	2	cw	2	392		26	132	2	1	1	200	75	4	50	36		105 hc			524	1		1553
Purple Finch	1	23	74	21	1		5	21	91 hc	17	31	1	28 hc	2	13		12 hc	32	1	15	6		395
House Finch	189	158 hc	103	32	36	183	34 hc	120	188	38	60	30	50	99	188 hc	100	30 hc	24	4	143	18	3	1830
White-winged Crossbill										2 ed													2
Common Redpoll						3 ed	3											1					7
Pine Siskin			1	7		18	1	6	3		2		11	0		21				32		2	104
American Goldfinch	69	133	134	107	31	264	19	134	368	79	59	57	88	101	194	134	92 hc	136	103	223	103	30	2658
House Sparrow	378	1086	665	1161	318	1843	493	753	1265	229	951	510	900	301	1658	1012	903 hc	270	263	940	245	1593	17737
Eurasian Tree Sparrow				1 gd	2 gd		1	21				1 nc				3 hc	49 hc	257	302	74	133	169	1013
Total Individuals	5562	6447	6488	15053	8205	31113	4612	5130	181214	29350	7198	14003	13450	12548	16466	15879	14538	42804	7565	38189	12655	5398	493867
Total Species	54	45	73	71	64	86	61	62	86	68	66	70	83	60	59	68	70	91	66	93	88	47	

	Central Counts			Southern Counts															
Species	RUSH	WMER	QUIN	LINC	NEWT	BIRD	MARI	BALK	RDLK	JACK	CROR	CYCR	CALK	UNION	HSLK	MRLK	COLL	WRBV	PEMR	Totals
Tundra Swan									6 hc											6
Trumpeter Swan														4 hc			2 hc			6
Mute Swan													1				7			8
Greater White-fronted Goose					6			176	71	230 hc	5	233	197	3000 HC	1900 hc	75	3 hc			5896
Snow Goose			150 hc		0		6000	21534	31050	1411 hc	451	5687	43084 hc	25000 hc	23000 hc	3400	350 hc		1250	162367
Ross's Goose									5	3 hc	9 hc	6 hc	6 hc	65 HC	19 hc	3 hc				116
Canada Goose	150	1540	1186	150	329	162	5	760	614	693	12500	397	202	7000	6000	240	1650	230	3610	37418
Wood Duck									2	1	52 hc	176 hc	1	38	18	12		12	1	313
Green-winged Teal					164		2		107		104	1321	44	114	20	46	112 hc		56	2090
American Black Duck					62			1	30	1	18	51	11	17	11	8			2	212
Mallard	24	17	370	12	6041	256	12	1310	1401	343	3588	28012	31771	16000	20000 hc	4667 hc	549	12	25821	140206
Northern Pintail					11	2			15	1	16	441	73	102	285	147 hc	9 hc		100	1202
Blue-winged Teal									3 hc										1 gd	4
Northern Shoveler			2	2	0		46	61	73	30 hc	100	674	390 hc	33	94	38 hc	7		53	1603
Gadwall		11	4		16	68	2	18	64	14	598 hc	922	40	330	447	29	2049 hc		526	5138
American Wigeon			1		1			16	12		190 hc	970	50	600 hc	225	101	10 hc		28	2204
Canvasback					4	8	1		124	4	0	6	209	29		9	16		208	618
Redhead									4		2		8	1	4	28 hc	4 hc			51
Ring-necked Duck					507	7		0	68	1	173	2185	67	1065 hc	98	6300 hc	550 hc	4	540	11565
Greater Scaup					1				3				11 hc			5				20
Lesser Scaup					50	8	11	5	86		56	550	182	5	10	125	16		129 hc	1233
scaup sp.					50	1														51
Long-tailed Duck									1 hc				3 hc							4
Surf Scoter					1											1 ed vd				2
White-winged Scoter																3 ed vd				3
Common Goldeneye					31	1	4	24	1010		54	2	64			3	75	2	101	1371
goldeneye sp.						1														1
Bufflehead					64	6	8	16	71		77	4	7		1	2	3		19	278
Hooded Merganser			2		68	7		12	167		703 HC	8	76	13	27 hc	12	7		9	1111
Common Merganser		32	12		10				42	54	38	2	17				2		9	218
Red-breasted Merganser					3			1	140		2		40			3 hc				189
merganser sp.						1														1
Ruddy Duck					43			0	66	31 hc	9	2	8	6 hc		12	282		760	1219
duck sp.						3														3
Ring-necked Pheasant									14				21 hc							35
Greater Prairie-Chicken					15															15
Wild Turkey		88 hc	30 hc	30	8	5	3		38	1	2	10	10 hc	15		24	1	1	47	313
Northern Bobwhite	1	46			20	50		2	21		2	15	1	1		15			6	179
Common Loon					2 hc				7		0	7 hc	1							17
Pied-billed Grebe					16	20		5	64	8	10	4	1	1	1	9				139
Horned Grebe					7	1			235 HC		2		1				1		1	248
Eared Grebe									2 HC											2
grebe sp.						2														2
Double-crested Cormorant									134		9		52		1	2				198
Great Blue Heron (Blue form)		16	16	4	22	11	7	31	57	68 hc	123	36	55	47	56	34	12	15	49	659
Great Egret											1 gd					1 ed vd				2
Black Vulture												201 HC		2 hc	2	49		35		289
Turkey Vulture				120	5		10			7	5	238 HC	10	25 hc		38		150 hc	10	618
Bald Eagle	2	280 hc	63		2	2		2	6	5	11	15	8	63	54	18	4	4	143	682
adults		96	46		2	1		1	4	2	7	9		34	35	15	4	4	68	328
immatures		55	17			1		1	2	2	4	6		25	18	3			65	199
unknowns	2	129								1			8	4	1				10	155
Northern Harrier		3	4	2	84 hc	10		12	1	3	2	138	31 hc	19	7	11	3	10	10	350
Sharp-shinned Hawk			2			3	1	2	5	2	3	6	4	2	2	4	4	2	2	44
Cooper's Hawk		1	1	1	4 hc	5		2	8		2	4	6	6	4	6	2	2	2	56
Accipiter sp.						3							2							5
Red-shouldered Hawk				3			1	4	6	23 hc	5	32 hc	2 hc	22	5	18 hc	1	15 hc		137
Red-tailed Hawk	8	22	46 hc	24	16	40	12	56	53	28	20	106	85	64	22	85	17	27	64	795
Harlan's Hawk																	1			1
Rough-legged Hawk		1	1	1	4 hc	1	1		1			3	3		1			1	1	19
Golden Eagle										1 gd				1						2
American Kestrel	5	17	40	14	19	58	19	32	42	41	12	73	65	49	38	60	24	25	30	663
Merlin													1					1 gd		2
hawk sp.																		1		1
Virginia Rail												1								1
American Coot					18	508		8	281	36	165	17	90	3		580 hc	350		8	2064
Killdeer				1				2	30	10	40	468 HC	11	28	83	103		129 hc	30	935
Least Sandpiper									4										1 gd	5
Dunlin																8 HC				8
Wilson's Snipe		10									7 hc	58	1	1	8	3				88
American Woodcock									1 hc	1		4 HC				1				7
Bonaparte's Gull					6			12	4656 HC	5	3000	5	35			7				7726
Ring-billed Gull	14 hc	373	623		275	2	33	492 hc	10070	161	4408	256	17881	11	17	23	3973	14	674	39300
Herring Gull	12	3	1	22 hc	1	1			28		7		52			1	25		21	174
Thayer's Gull									2 hc				1							3
Lesser Black-backed Gull									3 hc				2 hc							5
gull sp.						2											2			4
Rock Pigeon	3	54	226	48	49	45	50	27	48	240	99	118	131 hc	60	11	498	363	26	44	2140
Eurasian Collared-Dove			2		27			4 hc	24 hc			8 hc	33		7 hc	2				107
Mourning Dove	14	489 hc	114	194	181	570	258	93	146	287 hc	46	432	229	231	173	240	306	130	39	4172
White-winged Dove									1 NC ps ph											1
Monk Parakeet													6 hc							6

	Central Counts			*Southern Counts*															
Species	RUSH	WMER	QUIN	LINC	NEWT	BIRD	MARI	BALK	RDLK	JACK	CROR	CYCR	CALK	UNION	HSLK	MRLK	COLL	WRBV	PEMR	Totals
Barn Owl												3								3
Eastern Screech-Owl		1	1			3	1		8	8	2	2	4	16	1	2	1			50
Great Horned Owl		3	1	1	2	2	2	8	5	8	5	5	1	12	2	8 hc	6 hc	1	1	73
Barred Owl			2	1		3	3	6	6	22 hc	14	16	4	10	11	13	6 hc	4		121
Long-eared Owl									1	2 hc								1		4
Short-eared Owl					31			9 hc		1		27	4			2 hc		2		76
Northern Saw-whet Owl													1			1		1		3
owl sp.						3														3
Rufous Hummingbird						**1 ph bd ps**				**1 ph bd ps**										2
Belted Kingfisher	3	4	4		1	1	2	4	5	12	4	7	3	13	13	12	0	10 hc	5	103
Red-headed Woodpecker	7	5	2	19	8	15	8	9	17	80	29	443	13	175	114	70	8	17	31	1070
Red-bellied Woodpecker	13	39	50	30	32	60	196	42	53	103	79	195	54	222	111	89	39	52	97	1556
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			1				1	3	8 hc	17 hc	6	52 hc	2 hc	31	17	10	1	6	6	161
Downy Woodpecker	20	40	38	15	27	66	10	81	51	78	37	146	40	137	92	54	31	31	69	1063
Hairy Woodpecker	4	14	7	4	3	13	4	6	12	20	7	31	9	38	28	23	2	4	12	241
Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker	5	12	26	24	20	50	8	58	54	93	52	173	33	197	111	72	26	30	83	1127
Pileated Woodpecker		2	7	11 hc	1			9	5	54	17	96	3	86	40	14	2	20	27	394
woodpecker sp.						5														5
Eastern Phoebe									1		1	6 hc		1	1	3		3		16
Loggerhead Shrike				1	6	17	3	6	1		1	6	2		2	8	1	2		56
Blue Jay	48	55	109	137	110	323	198	108	314	263	435	374	155	438	179	239	35	282	155	3957
American Crow	29	45	223	295	55	36	424	86	118	166	204	109	255	156	28	50	321	105	170	2875
Horned Lark		135	37	251	641	312	4	33	180	36	2	126	293	174	172	24		136	73	2629
Barn Swallow																		1 ed		1
Black-capped Chickadee	53	124	79																150	406
Carolina Chickadee				41	32	142	88	146	122	227	152	413	78	437	252	230	53	88		2501
chickadee sp.						1														1
Tufted Titmouse	26	9	25	48	14	65	44	63	82	148	76	383 hc	46	330	108	193	9	60	81	1810
Brown Creeper		4		1	1	1	2	3	11	12	2	95 hc	5	34	31	13	4	1	7	227
Red-breasted Nuthatch		1	1				1	1	1	2	7	5		7						26
White-breasted Nuthatch	16	55	31	33	26	43	18	44	26	108	27	161	21	204	52	53	26 hc	36	71	1051
Carolina Wren	2	4	13	7	11 hc	19	9	27	39	76	52	131	32	158	94	131 hc	28	22	55	910
House Wren																		1		1
Winter Wren			2 hc	1			1		2	3	1	24		12	8	8		3	1	66
Sedge Wren												1 gd								1
Marsh Wren								1 ed								1				2
Golden-crowned Kinglet		1			1		2	5	22	33	7	63	13	51	29	34	1	20	3	285
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			2			1		3	2	5	3	25	1	48 hc	20	23	4 hc	5	1	143
Eastern Bluebird	23		26	21	23	145 hc	66	72 hc	49	119 hc	108 hc	181	69 hc	183	77	185 hc	48 hc	113	78	1586
Hermit Thrush		2			1	1		9 hc	27 hc	8	1	9	3 hc	26	16	17 hc	4 hc	3	2	129
American Robin		1	65	214	26	157	201	72	295	4468 hc	491	1290	316 hc	882	387	120	195	349	246	9775
Gray Catbird			1									1 ed		1						3
Northern Mockingbird	1		3	1	5	26	22	11	14	20	27	23	3	8	14	52	37	11	10 hc	288
Brown Thrasher				2 hc		4	1			7	3	7	2	7	6	5		1	1	46
American Pipit										3 hc		61 hc			**127 HC**					191
Cedar Waxwing	55 hc	20	75	11	333 hc	28	33	11	220	54	84	297	168 hc	123	104	44	0	96	71	1827
European Starling	749	629	1249	1583	866	1172	1318	5118	8844	4575	7348	7097	5506	2100	1350	4488	15979	6776	2053	78800
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler			5 hc		14	11	44	2	33	191 hc	110 hc	**365 HC**	48	244	64	84 hc		156 hc	6	1377
Palm Warbler					1 ed					1 gd						2 hc				4
Common Yellowthroat								1 ed								2 hc				3
warbler sp.						1														1
Eastern Towhee				6 hc	1	3	4	3	24 hc	12	38 hc	27	3	27 hc	12	62		30		252
Spotted Towhee																1				1
American Tree Sparrow	3	219	483	22	189	162	17	94	39	14	10	126	119	61	28	93	57	17	102	1855
Chipping Sparrow												2 hc dd								2
Field Sparrow				3	5	40	2	2	29	19	12	216	3	78	84	159		43		695
Vesper Sparrow																1				1
Savannah Sparrow					32		3	17	12	10 hc	3	38	4	7	24	13	5	4		172
Le Conte's Sparrow												2			3			2		7
Fox Sparrow		2 hc		4 hc	2	1		17 hc	9	7 hc	3	17	1	18	25	8	1	10	1	126
Song Sparrow	1	17	8	9	71	36	40	63	92	117	94	283	86	403	401	364 hc	26	74	96	2281
Lincoln's Sparrow														1		1				2
Swamp Sparrow		3		8	13	4	15	25	18	49	32	254	41	149	217	102		8	30	968
White-throated Sparrow	2	16	32	0	113 hc	24	27	89	257	279	179	658	120	786	791	698 hc	58	173	79	4381
White-crowned Sparrow			4	34	41	41	14	43	9	51	29	259	49	170	45	175	9	113	39	1125
Harris's Sparrow												1 ed								1
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	116	328	449	303	510	418	255	191	436	623	554	533	236	584	457	392	208	560	472	7625
sparrow sp.						7														7
Lapland Longspur					987 hc				1			106	408	79	36	3		1		1621
Snow Bunting													1							1
Northern Cardinal	59	181	167	118	142	343	138	254	228	231	208	306	221	521	420	160	75	145	226	4143
Indigo Bunting														4		**5 HC**				9
Red-winged Blackbird		150			41	114	1725	2442	50801	32981	6015	12636	414	25000 hc	3000	19136	1401	7635	685	164176
Eastern Meadowlark			12		227 hc	86	162	78 hc	89	45 hc	31	269	77	84	192	268	14	57	55	1746
meadowlark sp.						1														1
Rusty Blackbird							2	5	10	105 hc	2	103		59	53	284		75		698
Common Grackle				6	367 hc	22	3785	16970 hc	163718	33225 hc	4705	23779	13	32000	2200	25985	46	24543	1211	332575
Brown-headed Cowbird				1	41	5	12	224	225	1050 hc	334	1149	22	1500 hc	94	783	16	101	25	5582
blackbird sp.					1000	4	6450	230	250000	560	500000						10000	9137		777381
Purple Finch	28	10	1	1	14 hc		2		1	5	9	19	12 hc	5		2		21		130
House Finch	41	15	78	17	7	43	16	26	10	115	15	54	15	31	20	72	11	3	23	612
Carpodacus sp.						1														1
Pine Siskin										4										4
American Goldfinch	107	108	79	57	245	128	67	217	113	163	135	280	132	209	165	106	148	69	161	2689
House Sparrow	145	352	630	259	600	653	210	127	294	106	2	233	874	293	155	185	266	81	473	5938
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	22	200	95 hc														16		102	435
Total Individuals	1811	5809	7019	4228	15182	6733	22146	51894	528266	84539	548530	97703	105431	122703	64734	72546	40016	52199	41750	1873239
Total species	36	54	62	55	87	72	69	81	110 hc	89	97	107 hc	108hc	95	89	**112 HC**	76	80	83	

Field Notes

Male Varied Thrush drawing by Michael L. P. Retter.

The 2003/2004 Winter Season

by Kelly J. McKay

Temperatures in Illinois during the winter season of 2003-2004 ranged from well-above to well-below normal levels. Overall, Illinois experienced a fairly dry winter season, interrupted by a few notable winter storms, which produced primarily snow across the northern 2/3 of the state and rain or ice across the southern 1/3.

Overall, temperatures during December across the state were normal to slightly mild. The exception occurred during the last ten days of the month, when well-above average temperatures occurred. A fairly strong winter storm moved across Illinois early in the month, producing heavy rain on 9 December and < 1 inch of snow on 10 December. Precipitation was otherwise minor, with a couple of light snows (< 1 inch) statewide in mid December and a light rainfall over most of the state on 28-29 December. Additionally, an isolated storm resulting in a few inches of snow occurred in central Illinois on 13 December.

January was very cold, with temperatures ranging from below normal to well-below normal. Compounding these frigid temperatures were high winds (> 20 mph) over several days during the latter 2/3 of the month, yielding severe wind-chills of –20 to –30 degrees Farenheit. A major winter storm moved across Illinois on 3-4 January, which dropped 6-10 inches of snow statewide. Little precipitation fell across the state in mid January. A major winter storm on 25-26 January produced 4-8 inches of snow across the northern 2/3 of Illinois, and 0.75 inch of ice over the southern third. Two days later, another 1-2 inches of snow fell across Illinois.

In February, temperatures were considerably below normal during the first half of the month and then well-above normal through the latter half. High winds on several days in early February resulted in substantial wind-chills. A couple of storms in early February dropped 3-4 inches of snow across the northern 2/3 of the state and freezing rain in the south 2-3 February, then an additional 2-3 inches of snow over the northern 2/3 on 5 Feb. The balance of February saw little or no precipitation. Warming temperatures during the latter half of the month caused a rapid elimination of snow cover. Most of the snow in Illinois had melted by 20 February.

Bird diversity during the 2003-2004 winter season was among the highest ever, with 178 species reported by more than 100 contributors in Illinois. Virtually all of the expected wintering species, along with a considerable number of lingering migrants, were encountered. Additionally, several "semi-hardy" species were present. Some early spring migration began by late February, but no major movements occurred until after February.

WATERFOWL TO VULTURES... Waterfowl diversity was impressive, although the majority of species occurred in lower than expected numbers. The Greater White-fronted Goose continues to expand throughout the state, while concentrations of the Canada Goose remained relatively low. Notable numbers of Snow and Ross's Geese wintered at traditional southern and central locations.

Due to harsher winter weather, and the associated increase in ice cover on many water bodies, most "puddle ducks" were less numerous this winter. The only notable concentrations included 100,000 Mallards at Carlyle Lake and 34,813 at Chautauqua. Similarly, most diving ducks were less abundant. Exceptions included slightly greater numbers among the Ring-necked Duck, Hooded and Common Mergansers, and Ruddy Duck. A female Harlequin Duck was found on the Mississippi River in Rock Island County and a male was found at Winthrop Harbor in Lake County.

Among the various other waterbird species, most occurred in typically low numbers. Noteworthy concentrations were tallied for Horned Grebe, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant and Great Blue Heron. The most unusual waterbird was Pacific Loon in Madison County.

DIURNAL RAPTORS TO GULLS... The season produced 13 species of diurnal raptors. Overall, most were found in greater abundance, especially so for Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Rough-legged Hawk, and Merlin. One Northern

Goshawk occurred in the central region, and 3 Golden Eagles were reported this season. The most unusual raptor was an Osprey in Jasper County.

Sandhill Cranes were somewhat more numerous this winter, although largely confined to the northeast. Seven species of shorebirds were identified this past winter. Typical species such as Killdeer and Wilson's Snipe occurred in normal abundance, while American Woodcock was restricted primarily to the southern portion of the state. Four unusual shorebird species were detected in Illinois, including Least Sandpiper, a January Pectoral Sandpiper and Dunlin. Undoubtedly, the best shorebird of the winter was an adult Purple Sandpiper at Waukegan.

Fewer species of gulls were detected in Illinois this past winter, and numbers of semi-hardy gulls were lower overall. Notable counts were made for Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, and Thayer's Gull. Iceland, Lesser Black-backed and Glaucous Gulls were present in relatively normal abundance. Iceland Gull was almost exclusively restricted to northern Illinois, and Great Black-backed Gulls were far less abundant this winter. An adult Little Gull was a good find at Mermet Lake.

PIGEONS TO KINGLETS... Numbers of Eurasian Collared-Dove continue to grow, and several large flocks of the more common Mourning Dove were reported. A White-winged Dove was documented at Jefferson County.

Owls were generally found in typical to slightly less than normal numbers, except for two major roosts of Long-eared Owls at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie and Lost Mound National Wildlife Refuge. Thousands of pellets were collected there and are being analyzed. The most noteworthy owl report was of 1-2 Barn Owls in Putnam County; this species is still virtually accidental outside extreme southern Illinois. No Snowy Owls were reported this winter.

A remarkable 4 Rufous Hummingbirds were reported, three in southern Illinois. Woodpecker numbers were fairly typical, except for the Red-headed Woodpecker, which was far less abundant in the south. A Say's Phoebe found at Carlyle Lake in late February had likely overwintered in the area. Loggerhead Shrike was detected in fairly typical numbers, while Northern Shrike staged yet another strong movement into the state, mainly in the northern quarter, especially northeastern Illinois. Although somewhat smaller than the winter 1999/2000 invasion, a minimum of 85 Northern Shrikes were reported on Illinois CBCs, this report, and unpublished records on IBET (Illinois Birds Exchanging Thoughts) list serve.

In general, common permanent residents such as corvids, chickadees, Tufted Titmouse, and White-breasted Nuthatch were reported in greater abundance. However, I suspect these species continue to be under-reported statewide. Greater snow cover allowed for higher counts of open-country birds such as Horned Lark and Snow Bunting. A Fish Crow was reported in Madison County. Two Tree Swallows and a lone Barn Swallow were the only swallows reported. The Red-breasted Nuthatch was considerably more numerous.

Other than a few noticeable concentrations of Carolina Wrens in central and southern locales, both Carolina and Winter Wrens were overall less abundant. Lone Sedge and Marsh Wrens were good finds. The Golden-crowned Kinglet was far less numerous across the state, while the Ruby-crowned was somewhat more abundant.

THRUSHES TO NEOTROPICAL GROSBEAKS... Overall, thrushes (especially Hermit) appeared to be more numerous, especially in the northern and central regions, while mimids were fairly typical in abundance. The exception was the relatively impressive number of 6 Gray Catbirds reported statewide. A single Varied Thrush was found in Sangamon County. One large flock of American Pipit was noteworthy, while Cedar Waxwings were found in greater numbers, particularly in the north and central sections of the state.

A good diversity of 6 warbler species was reported this season. The Yellow-rumped Warbler was much more numerous, with substantial concentrations being encountered around the state. Other warblers included 2 Orange-crowned, 1 male Cape May, 2 Pine, and 2 Palm Warblers, and a single female Common Yellowthroat.

Eighteen species of sparrows (towhees through Snow Bunting) were recorded this winter. Both towhees were in good numbers, including 3 Spotted Towhees statewide and notable concentrations of Eastern Towhees. A single Vesper Sparrow was noted, and a Grasshopper Sparrow was a surprise and very rare winter record. Other sparrow highlights include 3 Le Conte's, 3 Lincoln's, and 3 Harris's Sparrows. Dark-eyed Juncos occurred in fairly typical numbers, while the Lapland Longspur was slightly less abundant than usual in most areas. Increased snow cover yielded larger numbers of Snow Buntings, especially in the north.

The Northern Cardinal was reported in larger numbers this winter, particularly in northern and central portions of the state. Remarkable tallies of 4 and 5 Indigo Buntings were made on two southern Illinois CBCs, and a single Dickcissel was another good find.

BLACKBIRDS TO WEAVER FINCHES... Blackbirds seemed to be less abundant this winter, probably due to the more severe winter weather and increased snow cover statewide. Only 4 Western Meadowlarks were reported statewide, while a couple large counts of Eastern Meadowlarks were made. Brewer's Blackbird was found at only two southern locations.

House Finch and American Goldfinch were relatively abundant. Additionally, Illinois experienced a modest invasion of winter finches this year, primarily across the northern portion of the state. Noteworthy counts were tallied for Purple Finch, Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin. Crossbills remained extremely rare, with only one report for each species. Once again, the Evening Grosbeak was not reported in Illinois. House and Eurasian Tree Sparrows both occurred in greater numbers during the 2003-2004 winter. The Eurasian Tree Sparrow appears to be expanding relatively quickly northward along the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

Acknowledgments

The foundation of this summary is the detailed information regarding avian wintering populations as submitted directly to the compiler by field observers throughout the state.

I gratefully acknowledge the helpful recommendations and editing assistanee provided by Paul Clyne, Sheryl DeVore and Steven D. Bailey in the preparation of this manuseript. I would also like to especially thank all the contributors whose data made this report possible. These observers are credited for

each record, and cited observers are sequenced here by initials of citation forms: Cindy Alberico, Ed Anderson, Jill Anderson, Louise Augustine, Arlene Brei, Bill Bertrand, Catherine Bland, Frank Bennett, John Bivins, Lewis & Corey Blevins, Steve Bailey, Tom Bohling, Richard & Sigurd Bjorklund (R&SBj), Vonna Bley, Angelo Capparella, Brad Cosentino, Elizabeth Chato, Jeff Chapman, Melinda Born Chapman, Paul Clyne, Scott Carpenter, Tammy Carpenter, Al Dierkes, John Duran, Myrna Deaton, Sheryl DeVore (SDe), Steve Dinsmore (SDi), Joe Eades, Joshua I. Engel, Mary Jane Easterday, Terry Esker, Albert Frohlich, Joe Friedel, Karen Fisher, Matt Fraker, Robert Fisher, Steve Freed, Trish Friedel, Brad Grover, Joel Greenberg, Urs Geiser, Brian Herriott, Frank Holmes, Larry L. Hood, Julie Hughes, Richard Hickson, Robert Hughes, Steve Hager, Trevor Hinckley, Libby Hill (LHl), Leroy Harrison (LHn), Lou Hanes (LHs), Amy Igl, Lawrence Igl, David B. Johnson, Glenn Johnson, Lee Johnson, Rhetta Jack, Steve Juhlin, Dan Kassebaum, Martin Kehoe, Vernon Kleen, Jerry Kumery, Craig Litteken, Greg Lambeth, Vicki Lang, Angella Moorehouse, Charlene Malone, Carolyn A. Marsh, Chris McDonald, Dan Moorehouse, D. James Mountjoy, Keith McMullen, Kelly J. McKay, Lindsay Maess, Mike Madsen, Tim Murphy, Travis A. Mahan, Walter Marcisz, Carie Nixon, Randy Nyboer, Helen Parker, Karen Rotschafer, Kevin Richmond, Michael Retter, Phil Reyburn, William Rowe, Al Stokie, Bob Schifo, Bob Shelby, Douglas F. Stotz, Eric Secker, James D. Salsbury, James O. Smith, Jon W. Stravers, Ryan Schmitz, Wes Serafin, Alice Topping, Ernie Topping, Heidi Trudell, Dan Wenny (DWy), Dan Williams (DWs), Eric Walters, Geoffrey Williamson, Jeff Walk, Ken Wysocki, Peter Weber, Regina Walk, Dick Young, James Ziebol, Walter Zuurdeeg,

As a printing aid, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

MC	=	Maximum counts from various sections of the state
*	=	documented observation
<	=	reported as fall departure
>	=	reported as spring arrival
m.ob.	=	many observers
ad.	=	adult(s)
imm.	=	immature(s)
unk.	=	unknown age/sex
1st/2nd/3rd	=	first/second/third-year plumage
pr	=	pair(s)
Co(s)	=	County (Counties)
FP	=	Forest Preserve
L	=	Lake
L&D	=	Lock and Dam
NWR	=	National Wildlife Refuge
P	=	Park
R	=	River
SP	=	State Park
WA	=	Wildlife Area

Information on counts greater than one, sexes, and/or ages of birds is included where available; no number indicates single birds. This information is followed by the location of the observation, date(s) of observation, and the observer(s). Noteworthy dates of occurrence, remarkably high counts, and/or locations for the state as a whole, or for particular regions of the state, are underlined and boldfaced. Species of extremely unusual occurrence in Illinois during the winter appear in CAPITALIZED, BOLDFACED fonts. Headings for species requiring review by the IORC appear in CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED, AND BOLDFACED fonts. Records pending IORC review are enclosed in square brackets [ ]; fuller details on accepted records will be included in forthcoming IORC reports in this journal. Please note that some diagnostic photos are included in this report; but we maintain the brackets until IORC has completed its voting.

Carl.L	=	Carlyle Lake (Clinton & Fayette Cos)
CBG	=	Chicago Botanic Garden (Cook Co)
Chi	=	Chicago and vicinity (Cook Co)
Clin.L	=	Clinton Lale (Dewitt Co)
CrabOr.	=	Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co)
East Fork L	=	East Fork Lake (Richland Co)
Emiq	=	Emiquon NWR (Fulton Co)
Goose L Pr.	=	Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area (Grundy Co)
HL	=	Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co)
HLCA	=	Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area (Alexander Co)
IBSP	=	Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)
JP	=	Jackson Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
KCP	=	Kennekuk County Park (Vermilion Co)
LCal	=	Lake Calumet and vicinity (Cook Co)
LMNWR	=	Lost Mound National Wildlife Refuge (JoDaviess Co)
Chau	=	Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)
M.Arb.	=	Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
Mermet L	=	Mermet Lake Conservation Area (Massac Co)
MidFkVMLN	=	Middlefork State Fish & Wildlife Area (Vermilion Co)
MidNTP	=	Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (Will Co)
Miss.R	=	Mississippi River (various Cos)
MTwain	=	Mark Twain NWR (Mercer Co)
Nachusa	=	Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co)
Oakwd Btms	=	Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co)
Pr.Rdg	=	Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Jasper Co)
QC	=	"Quad Cities" (Rock Island/Moline area) (Rock Island Co)
Rend L	=	Rend Lake (Franklin & Jefferson Cos)
Rockfd	=	Rockford and vicinity (Winnebago Co)
(L) Spfld	=	(Lake) Springfield (Sangamon Co)
SRSF	=	Sand Ridge State Forest (Mason Co)
SRock	=	Starved Rock State Park (La Salle Co)
UCCA	=	Union County Conservation Area (Union Co)
Urbana	=	Champaign–Urbana area (Champaign Co)
Wauk.	=	Waukegan and vicinity (Lake Co)
Winthrop H	=	Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co)

Maximum counts are provided, where available, from each of the three regions of Illinois (north, central, and south) as mapped out in H. David Bohlen's 1978 Annotated check-list of the birds of Illinois. Additional data reflecting the progress of the season are noted, when available, for species and areas of special interest. The species accounts below follow the taxonomy and nomenclature of the 7th edition of the American Ornithologists' Union's Check-list of North American Birds, through its 44th (2003) Supplement.

Greater White-fronted Goose

MC: 1601, HLCA, 29 Dec (SB ,TH); 1500, Carl.L, 24 Jan (TAM, DK); 1420, Chau, 27 Dec (R&SBj); 931, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 500, Chau, 23 Feb (KM). **Others**: 275, L Spfld, 19 Jan (RJ); 160, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 125, East Fork L, 20 Feb (LHn); 100, HL, 15 Feb (FH); 50, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.). Somewhat more widespread this winter, particularly in the central and southern regions.

Snow Goose

MC: **300,000**, Carl.L, 10 & 24 Jan (DK, TAM); **30,000**, Rend L, 17 Dec (KM); 19,700 (11,550 white morph, 8150 blue morph), Chau, 9 Jan (R&SBj); 10,000, Spfld, 22 Feb (KM). **Others**: 6100, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 5850, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB,TH); 5052, Two Rivers NWR (Calhoun Co), 3 Jan (RJ); 2161, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 836, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.). Other than at Carl.L, considerably less abundant in the south, but more abundant in the central region.

Ross's Goose

MC: **53**, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 16, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB, TH); 12, Rend L, 6 Dec (KM, m.ob.); 8, **including 1 dark morph**, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB, TH). **Others**: 4, L Storey (Knox Co), 7 Dec (DJM, PR); 4, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 3, Jefferson Co, 6 Dec (FB, m.ob.); 3, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 2, Massac Co, 19 Jan (FB); Durand (Winnebago Co), 20 Dec (BG); HL, 15Feb> (FH). Considerably more abundant and widespread this winter.

Canada Goose

MC: 10,000, Grundy Co, 18 Jan (KM, TAM, DK); 8489, Chau, 2 Jan (R&SBj); 4252, L Spfld, 11 Jan (RJ); 2909, QC, 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 1200, Madison Co, 30 Jan (KM); 1000, East Fork L, 20 Feb (LHn). **Others**: 2250, Rock R (Ogle Co), 20 Dec (EW, JIE); 2100, Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 27 Dec (AD); 1800, Little Swan L (Warren Co), 2 Jan (LLH); 1630, JP, 25 Dec (PC, SC); 1310, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 1000, Montgomery Co, 30 Jan (KM). Somewhat more abundant this winter, but numbers were still low due primarily to the lack of aerial waterfowl survey data.

Mute Swan

MC: 85, Wolf L (Cook Co), 25 Feb (WM); 39, Lake Co, 6 Dec (SB,SDe); 32, Channahon (Will Co), 11 Jan (UG); 14, LZurich (Lake Co), 12 Feb (SB). **Others**: 6, L Spfld, 8 Feb (RJ); 5, Fox R (Kane Co), 27 Feb (ES); 3, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB,BS); 3, Evanston (Cook Co), 27 Dec< (DY); 2, Wayne Co, 1 Jan (BS); 2, HL, 17 & 22 Feb (FH, WR); Carl.L, 13 Dec (DK). Widespread, but somewhat less abundant.

Tundra Swan

MC: 85, Winnebago Co, 17 Dec (MK); 40-55, Chau, 5 Dec-23 Jan (R&SBj); 51, Chau, 27 Feb> (R&SBj). **Others**: 7, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 6, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 2, Carl.L, 7 Dec (TAM, DK); Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (MJE,VB); Jasper Co, 4 Feb (LHn). Somewhat more abundant, but extremely scattered.

Wood Duck

MC: 19, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 11, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 7, St. Clair Co, 26 Feb (KM); 4, Green R (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM, SH); 4, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 4 (2 pr), Lodge P (Piatt Co), 23 Feb (RJ); 4 (2 pr), Panther Creek WA (Cass Co), 29 Feb (RJ); 3, Rock R (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (TM, SF). Somewhat more common and widespread this winter.

Gadwall

MC: 2060, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 2023, HL, 27 Dec (FH); 200, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 174, Chau, 5 Dec (R&SBj); 149, Widewaters (Will Co), 8 Jan (JC). **Others**: 67, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB,TH); 62, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 54, LCal, 3 Jan (WM); 50, Rend L, 6 Dec (DK, m.ob.); 50, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM, CB). Somewhat less numerous this winter.

American Wigeon

MC: 330, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 173, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 100, Mermet L, 2 Jan (KM, CL); 45, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL). Low numbers reported, primarily due to the lack of aerial waterfowl survey data.

American Black Duck

MC: 273, Chau, 5 Dec (R&SBj). **Others**: 25, Grundy Co, 1 Feb (EW); 22, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 20, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 15, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, SB); 15, Chau, 23 Feb (KM); 14, LCal, 20 Dec (WM); 10, L&D 13 (Whiteside Co), 18 Dec (KJM, RS). Less abundant overall.

Mallard

MC: **100,000**, Carl.L, 12 Dec (DK); **34,813**, Chau, 2 Jan (R&SBj); 10,500, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 10,000, HLCA, 29 Dec (SB,TH); 5160, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 5000, Grundy Co, 18 Jan (KM, TAM, DK); 3652, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.). Lower numbers reported from traditional central and southern concentration sites, doubtless due, in part, to the lack of aerial waterfowl survey data.

Blue-winged Teal

Mermet L, **28 Feb**> (KM, TAM).

Northern Shoveler

MC: 92, Chau, 5 Dec (R&SBj); 75, Carl.L, 12 Dec (DK); 66, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM, CB). **Others**: 55, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 30, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK); 21, HL, 20 Feb (KM); 12, Rock R (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (TM, SF); 10, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 10, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 28 Feb (KJM, AF). Numbers remained low throughout the state.

Northern Pintail

MC: 3200, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 2000, Carl.L, 24 Jan (TAM, DK); 1500, Chau, 23 Feb (KM); 125, HL, 20 Feb (FH); 40, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 28 Feb (KJM, AF). **Others**: 100, Rend L, 6 Dec (KM, m.ob.); 100, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK); 30, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB,TH); 20, East Fork L, 20 Feb (LHn). Numbers still relatively low throughout the state.

Green-winged Teal

MC: 3566, Chau, 5 Dec (R&SBj); 510, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 300, Rend L, 17 Dec (KM); 112, HL, 27 Dec (FH); 82, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK). For the most part, this species occurred in fairly low numbers.

Canvasback

MC: 1500, Carl.L, 19 Jan (DK); 600, HL, 20 Feb (FH); 260, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 120, L Spfld, 8 Feb (RJ). **Others**: 375, Jersey Co, 11 Jan (JIE, EW); 83, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 56, Chau, 12 Dec (R&SBj); 35, Cordova (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM); 25, Winthrop H, 21 Feb (RJ, m.ob.); 4 male, Evanston (Cook Co), 14 Dec< (EW). This species was less abundant.

Redhead

MC: 161, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 27 Dec (GW); 140, WinthropH, 8 Feb (SB,SDe); 42, Chau, 27 Feb (R&SBj); 40, HL, 20 Feb (KM); 30, Calumet P (Cook Co), 18 Jan (CAM); 20, L Zurich (Lake Co), 12 Feb (SB). Numbers remain relatively low across Illinois.

Ring-necked Duck

MC: 5000, Mermet L, 2 Jan (KM, CL); 1380, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 1000, HL, 22 Feb (FH). **Others**: 550, HL, 27 Dec (FH); 500, Carl.L, 7 Dec (TAM, DK); 187, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 95, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 45, Rend L, 20 Dee (TAM, DK); 42, Little Calumet R, LCal, 20 Dec (WM); 36, Chau, 16 Jan (R&SBj). Slightly more abundant, particularly in the south.

Greater Scaup

MC: **2932**, IBSP, 1 Jan (GW); 370, Chi, 27 Dec (DFS). **Others**: 10, Carl.L, 15 Dec (TAM, DK); 7, East Alton (Madison Co), 8 Jan (KM); 6, Rend L, 12 Jan (KM); 5, Mermet L, 1 & 19 Jan (FB); 5, Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (SF); 3, L Spfld, 8 Feb (RJ); Butterworth P (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (*KJM); St. Charles (Kane Co), 7 Feb (DW); HL, 20 Feb> (FH).

Lesser Scaup

MC: 505, Miss.R (Whiteside Co), 18 Dec (KJM, RS); 295, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (KJM, L&CB); 105, Rend L, 12 Jan (KM); 100, HL, 20 Feb (KM). **Others**: 250, Little Calumet R, LCal, 10 Jan-22 Feb (WM); 95, Carl.L, 15 Dec (TAM, DK); 50, IBSP, 1 Jan (GW); 33, Chau, 5 Dec (R&SBj). Somewhat low numbers.

HARLEQUIN DUCK

ad. female, Butterworth P (**Rock Island Co**), 29 Feb (*AF, KJM, m.ob.); ad. male, Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co), 8 Feb<> (*JK, SDe, SB).

Surf Scoter

4, Chi, 27 Dec (DFS); 2, IBSP, 1 Jan (GW); Newton L (Jasper Co), 16-19 Dec (LHn, BS, SB); ad. female, Mermet L, 31 Dec, 1-2 Jan (*FB, KM, CL).

White-winged Scoter

4 (2 1st male, 1 ad. female, 1 1st female), Mermet L, 1 & 18 Jan (*FB); 3, Wilmette (Cook Co), 27 Dec (JIE, EW, WS); 2 (1 ad. female, 1 imm. female), L&D 14 (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (*KJM); 2 imm. female, Cordova (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (*KJM); IBSP, 1 Jan (GW). Although more frequent this winter, this remains an extremely scarce species.

Male Harlequin Duck at Winthrop Harbor, Lake County. 8 February 2004. Photo by Jerry Kumery.

Black Scoter

female, Evanston (Cook Co), 27 Dec (JIE, WS, EW); 1st female, Alton (Madison Co), 3 Jan (TAM, DK). Very rare this winter.

Long-tailed Duck

4, Carl.L, 2 Jan (KM, CL); 2, Butterworth P (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (L&CB); male, Rend L, 20 Dec (FB); IBSP, 1 Jan (GW); female, East Fork L, 20 Jan (LHn). Extremely low numbers.

Bufflehead

MC: 45, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 36, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 26, Chi, 25 Dec (JG, KJM, m.ob.); 25, East Alton (Madison Co), 8 Jan (KM); 12, Wooster L (Lake Co), 6 Dec (SB,SDe); 11, Chau, 23 Jan (R&SBj). **Others**: 22, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); 12, Winthrop H, 21 Feb (GW). Less abundant than usual.

Common Goldeneye

MC: 3500, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); 3000, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 9 Feb (JC); 2508, Miss.R (Whiteside Co), 18 Dec (KJM, RS); 2300, L Spfld, 11 Jan (RJ); 2250, Rend L, 12 Jan (KM); 550, L&D 21 (Adams Co), 9 Feb (AD); 500, Calumet P (Cook Co), 18 Jan (CAM).

Hooded Merganser

MC: 316, Chau, 5 Dec (R&SBj); 137, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 95, CrabOr., 6 Dec (KM, m.ob.); 52, Wooster L (Lake Co), 6 Dec (SB, SDe); 51, L Spfld, 19 Jan (RJ); 30, Riverdale (Cook Co), 27 Dec (WM); 25, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS). **Others**: 31, L Vermilion (Vermilion Co), 17 Dec (SB); 30, Carl.L, 13 Dec (DK); 20, Du Page Co, 29 Feb (UG). This species was somewhat more abundant.

Common Goldeneye in Winthrop Harbor, Lake County. 21 February 2004. Photo by Jerry Kumery.

Common Merganser

MC: 2548, Miss.R (Whiteside & Carroll Cos), 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 2200, Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 9 Jan (AD); 1025, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 17 Feb (JC); 782, Chau, 27 Feb (R&SBj); 580, SRock, 28 Feb (ES); 365, L Spfld, 19 Jan (RJ); 350, HL, 11 Feb (FH); 250, Chi, 24 Jan (GW). Somewhat more abundant this winter, especially in the north and central regions.

Red-breasted Merganser

MC: 690, Chi, 27 Dec (DFS); 294, Wilmette (Cook Co), 27 Dec (EW, JIE, WS); 115, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL). **Others**: 30, Carl.L, 13 Dec (DK); 20, CrabOr., 28 Feb> (KM, TAM); 15, L Spfld, 11 Jan (RJ).

Ruddy Duck

MC: 767, Chau, 12 Dec (R&SBj); 585, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 500, HL, 22 Feb (FH); 400, Grassy L (Union Co), 28 Feb (KM, TAM); 148, L Spfld, 11 Jan (RJ). **Others**: 27, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 20, Carl.L, 29 Feb (ES); 5, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). Somewhat more abundant, but few reports from the northern region.

Gray Partridge

6, Whiteside Co, 24 Dec (JB); Rockfd, 20 Dec (DW).

Ring-necked Pheasant

MC: 55, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.). **Others**: 6 female, De Kalb Co, 1 Feb (MBC); 5, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 4, Nachusa, 20 Dec (EW, JIE).

Greater Prairie-Chicken

21, Marion Co, 27 Feb (JW, TE); 15, Pr.Rdg, 19 Dec (JW, m.ob.).

Wild Turkey

MC: 206, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 113, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM); 79, Fulton Co, 19 Jan (LLH); 57, Monroe Co, 2 Dec (JZ); 50, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK); 25, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others**: 62, Grundy Co, 9 Jan (JC); 62, Belvidere (Boone Co), 20 Jan (DW); 45, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS); 42, East Alton (Madison Co), 11 Jan (EW); 39, Jersey Co, 3 Jan (RJ); 15, Oregon (Ogle Co), 24 Jan (DW); 11, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.). Somewhat more abundant this winter.

Northern Bobwhite

MC: 16, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM); 15, Metropolis (Massac Co), 31 Dec (KM, DK); 14, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, SH, BC); 12, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 12, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM). **Others**: 4, Fulton (Whiteside Co), 14 Feb (UG); 3, Jasper Co, 29 Dec (DFS); Carroll Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS); male, Sangamon Co, "bird was road-killed and sent to the Illinois Natural History Survey," 8 Feb (RJ). This species remains scarce across the state. Less numerous and considerably less distributed through the south.

Pacific Loon

HL, 5 Dec (FH, KM, JE).

Common Loon

MC: 6, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 3, CrabOr., 6 Dec (FB, m.ob.); 2, Grant P, Chi, 1 Dec (DFS). **Others**: HL, 5 Dec< (FH); Carl.L, 21 Dec (DK); Newton L (Jasper Co), 19 Dec (SB, m.ob.). Chi, 25 Dec (JG, KJM, m.ob.).

Pied-billed Grebe

MC: 32, East Fork L, 28 Jan (LHn); 22, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 18, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 12, L Spfld, 8 Feb (RJ). **Others**: 2, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (MJE, BS); (TH); 2, Mermet L, 2 Jan (KM, CL); Wolf L (Cook Co), HLCA, 29 Dec (SB), 11 Jan (WM); HL, 29 Feb> (FH). Slightly more numerous, particularly in the south.

Horned Grebe

MC: **198**, Rend L, 20 Dec (FB); 80, CrabOr., 6 Dee (KM, m.ob.). **Others**: Evanston (Cook Co), 26-28 Dec (EW, m.ob.); HL, 27 Dec (FH); L Spfld, 19 Jan (RJ). Scarce throughout the state, except for a couple of southern waterfowl concentration sites.

Red-necked Grebe

imm., CrabOr., 6 Dec (FB, m.ob.); ad., L Vermilion (Vermilion Co), 17 Dec (*MJE).

Eared Grebe

3, CrabOr., 6 Dec (FB, m.ob.); 2, Rend L, 20 Dec (FB).

American White Pelican

MC: **188**, Clifton Terrace (Madison Co), 11 Jan (EW); 86, Chau, 12 Dec (R&SBj); 75, Illinois R (Jersey Co), 3 Jan (TAM, DK). **Others**: L&D 20 (Adams Co), 15 Feb (AD); Grassy L (Union Co), 28 Feb (KM, TAM). Only a couple of notable groups were reported. No reports from the north.

Double-crested Cormorant

MC: 3000, Rend L, 6 Dec (KM, m.ob.); 282, Chau, 5 Dec (R&SBj); 13, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others**: 16, Carl.L, 11 Jan (DK); 3, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (MJE); 2, Chi, 25 Dec (GW, m.ob.); 2, Joliet (Will Co), 11 Jan (UG); 2, SRock, 24 Jan (KM, CL); Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); HL, 16 Jan (FH). Other than a couple of relatively large concentrations, this species was fairly scarce.

Great Blue Heron

MC: 146, Chau, 9 Jan (R&SBj); 48, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 46, Miss.R (Whiteside & Carroll Cos), 18 Dec (EA, DW, m.ob.); 42, Illinois R (Mason Co), 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM). **Others**: 29, Rend L, 12 Jan (KM); 27, Adams Co, 24 Jan (AD); 24, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 19, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 18, SRock, 31 Jan (GW); 17, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 14, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB,TH); 5, Little Calumet R, LCal, all winter (WM, JA). Slightly more common this winter.

Great Egret

Mermet L, **31 Dec, 1-2 & 24 Jan** (*FB, KM, CL).

Black-crowned Night-Heron

2, HL, 5 Dec & 4 Jan (KM); Little Calumet R, LCal, all winter (WM, KW, JA); imm., LCal, 27 Dec (JD).

Black Vulture

100, Johnson Co, 6 Dec (FB, m.ob.); 15, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK).

Turkey Vulture

MC: 118, Lincoln Trail SP (Clark Co), 28 Feb (EW); 51, Edwards Co, 18 Feb (BS). **Others**: 20, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 14, Clifton Terrace (Jersey Co), 24 Jan (WR); 13, Johnson Co, 2 Jan (KM, CL); 12, Washington Co, 28 Feb (KM, TAM); 5, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (BS,MJE); 3, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB,TH); 2, SRSF, 23 Feb> (KM). More numerous and widespread throughout the south and central sections of the state.

OSPREY

Jasper Co, "bird had an injured foot but was still eating a fish," **9 Dec** (BS, LHn).

Bald Eagle

MC: 1243 (758 ad., 467 imm., 18 unk.), Miss.R L&D 15 to L&D 16 (Rock Island Co), 10 Jan (KJM); **1040** (604 ad., 422 imm., 14 unk.), Miss.R L&D 13 to L&D 14 (Whiteside & Rock Island Cos), 9 Jan (KJM); **825** (518 ad., 304 imm., 3 unk.), Miss.R Keithsburg to L&D 17 (Mercer Co), 12 Jan (KJM); **347** (197 ad., 150 imm.), Miss.R Warsaw to Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 11 Jan (KJM); 20, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK); 20, Jersey Co, 11 Jan (EW). **Others**: 127 (47 ad., 80 imm.), Clear L (Mason Co), 20 Feb (R&SBj); 105, SRock, 31 Jan (GW, ES); 17 (7 ad., 9 imm., 1 unk.), UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 12 (2 ad., 9 imm., 1 unk.), Clinton Co, 24 Jan (TAM, DK). This species was considerably more abundant, espeeially along the Mississippi River.

Immature Cooper's Hawk at the Chicago Botanic Garden, Cook County. 13 February 2004. Photo by Jerry Kumery.

Northern Harrier

MC: 84, Pr.Rdg, 19 Dec (JW, m.ob.); **17**, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 27 Feb (JW, TE); 9, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 8, Bartel Grasslands FP (Cook Co), 27 Dec (WM); 7, Reilly (Vermilion Co), 21 Nov-thru winter (SB, SDe); 7, MidNTP, 28 Feb (RH, GJ); 6 (3 male, 3 unk.), Hancock & Schyuler Cos, 18 Jan (LLH); 4, Chau, 9 Jan (R&SBj). **Others**: 16, Carl.L, 24 Jan (TAM, DK); 15, Johnson Co, 2 Jan (KM, CL); 6, Pulaski Co, 28 Feb (KM, TAM); 5, Putnam Co, 17 Dec (DFS); 4 (2 ad. male, 1 ad. female, 1 imm.), Nachusa, 20 Dec (EW, JIE). Considerably more abundant and widespread throughout the state.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

3, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 2 (2 ad.), Clin.L, 14 Dec (RJ); 2, Rend L, 17 Dec (KM); 2, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); Boone Co, all winter (AB); M.Arb., 14 Dec-1 Jan (MBC, ES); Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); Whiteside Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS); HL, 27 Dec< (FH); La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM); Olney (Richland Co), 31 Dec (LHn); Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); Bushnell (McDonough Co), 5 Jan (LLH); Russell (Lake Co), 19 Jan (SB); Goose L Pr., 1 Feb (EW); Big R State Forest (Henderson Co), 7 Feb (EW); LCal, 14 Feb (WM, RH). Relatively normal numbers and distribution.

Cooper's Hawk

MC: 12, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 5, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 4, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (AT, ET, m.ob.). **Others**: 4, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 3 (1 ad. male, 1 imm. male, 1 female), JP, all winter (PC); 3 (1 ad., 2 imm.), Wilmette (Cook Co), 27 Dec (EW, WS, JIE); 3, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 2 (1 male, 1 female), Bushnell (McDonough Co), 2 Dec (LLH); 2, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 2, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 2, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 2, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). This species seemed to be more abundant and widespread.

Northern Goshawk

Iroquois Co, 30 Jan (JC).

Red-shouldered Hawk

MC: 17, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 10, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB,TH). **Others**: 4, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 3 (2 ad., 1 imm.), Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 28 Feb (KJM, AF); 2, Glenview (Cook Co), 28 Feb (EW); imm., Urbana, all winter (EC, GL); HL, 7 Dec< (FH); Chau, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); ad., Byron (Ogle Co), 28 Dec (DW); Carl.L, 10 Jan (DK); Downs (McLean Co), "bird was found road-killed," 10 Feb (AC); imm., Knox Co, 17 Feb (PR, DJM, m.ob.). This species was slightly more abundant.

Red-tailed Hawk

MC: 47, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 38 & 25, Libertyville to Champaign (via I-294 & I-57), 16 Feb & 20 Jan, respectively, (SB); 22, MidNTP, 28 Feb (RH,GJ); 29, LCal, 27 Dec (WM); 24, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 20 Dec (LLH, m.ob.); 20, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 18, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 11, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL). **Others**: 28, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (EA, DW, m.ob.); 17, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 16, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 13, Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (RJ); **dark morph**, imm., Eldon-Hazlet SP (Clinton Co), 24 Jan (TAM, DK); "**Krider's**," Monroe Co, 23 Feb (JZ). Somewhat more numerous this winter.

Rough-legged Hawk

MC: 25, MidNTP, 30 Jan (RH); **19** (15 light morphs, 4 dark morphs), Goose L Pr., 1 Feb (EW); 8, Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co),

12 Feb (SB); 7, Pr.Rdg, 13 Jan (JW); 6, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 5, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 27 Feb (JW, TE). **Others**: 5, Johnson Sauk Trail SP (Henry Co), 21 Feb (EW); 4 (2 light morphs, 2 dark morphs), Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS). This species was far more abundant and widely distributed throughout the state this winter.

Golden Eagle

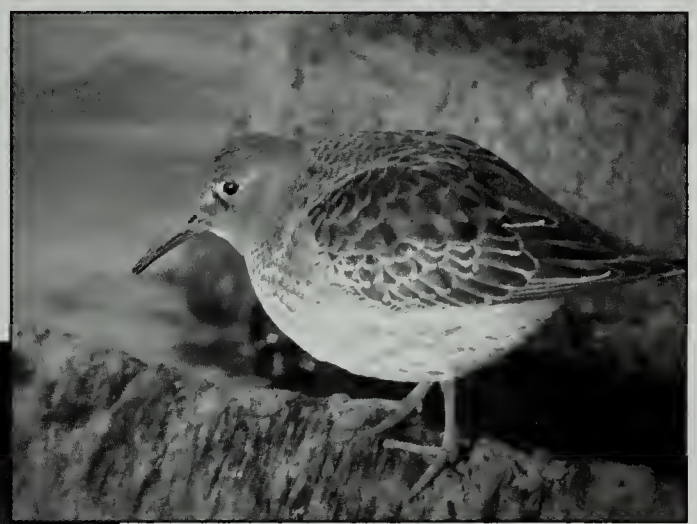
ad., West Branch FP (Du Page Co), 20 Dec (*UG); ad., UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, *SDi); ad., Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (*VL, SJ, m.ob.).

American Kestrel

MC: 36, Jasper, Clay & Wayne Cos, 29 Dec (DFS); 26, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); 21, Libertyville to Champaign (via I294 & I57), 20 Jan (SB); 20, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 18, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 16, Adams Co, 9 Jan (AD); 11, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.). **Others**: 14, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 13, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 11, Bond Co, 22 Feb (KM); 10, Marshall Co, 17 Dec (DFS); 8, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.). Slightly more numerous and widespread this winter.

Merlin

female, L Storey (Knox Co), 7 Dec (DJM, PR); ad. male, Clin.L, 14 Dec (RJ); M.Arb., 14 & 28 Dec, 7 Feb (ES); "**richardsonii**," ad. male, Orland Park (Cook Co), 25 Dec (LI, AI); IBSP, 1 Jan (*GW); Ottawa (La Salle Co), 31 Jan (ES); Meadowbrook (Champaign Co), 8 Feb (GL); HL, 15 Feb> (FH). Notably widespread this winter.



Purple Sandpiper at Waukegan Beach, Lake County. 18-25 December 2003. Photos by Travis A. Mahan.

GYRFALCON

Gray morph (legally caught by licensed falconer), Pekin (Tazewell Co), 31 Dec (USF&WS, fide SB). Bird was seen chasing waterfowl and a Red-tailed Hawk at Powerton L.

Peregrine Falcon

4 (3 ad., 1 imm.), LCal, 27 Dec (WM, KW, JA); 2 (pr), Hyde Park, Chi, all winter (PC); Shorewood (Will Co), 14 Dec (CA); Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (EC); East St. Louis (St. Clair Co), 5 Feb (KM); ad. "anatum", McLean Co, 7 Feb (*MF). Occurred in fairly typical numbers.

American Coot

MC: 3400, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 500, Mermet L, 2 Jan (KM, CL); 400-500, East Fork L, 28 Jan (LHn). **Others**: 350, HL, 27 Dec (FH); 272, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 50, Carl.L, 15 Dec (TAM, DK); 16, Chi, 25 Dec (JG, KJM, m.ob.). Less numerous this winter.

Sandhill Crane

MC: 115, M.Arb., 14 Dec< (JC, ES); 70, Woodridge (Du Page Co), 15 Dee (MBC). **Others**: 23, Boone Co, 8 Dec (AB); 14, JP, 23 Dec< (TC); 13, Urbana, 24 Feb> (GL); Carl.L, 22 Feb (DK). This species was somewhat more numerous, but was found almost exclusively in the northeast.

Killdeer

MC: 40, Carl.L, 13 Dec (DK); 40, Clay City (Clay Co), 29 Dec (DFS); 20, Panther Creek WA (Cass Co), 29 Feb (RJ); 6, Little Swan L (Warren Co), 7 Dec (LLH); 6, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 28 Feb (KJM, AF); 6, JP, 29 Feb> (PC). **Others**: 24, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 18, UCCA, 6 Dec (KM, m.ob.); 17, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 10, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 2, St. Clair Co, 10 Feb> (KM). Found in rather typical numbers.

LEAST SANDPIPER

4, Rend L, **20 Dec** (*FB, DK, TAM); Spoon L (Knox Co), 7 Dec (DJM, PR).

[PURPLE SANDPIPER

ad., Waukegan (Lake Co), 18 & 23 Dec] See photograph.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER

Mermet L, **19 & 24 Jan** (*FB).

DUNLIN

40, Rend L, 6 Dec (KM, m.ob.); 8, Mermet L, **31 Dec** (FB).

Wilson's Snipe

MC: 10, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 10, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 8, Mermet L, 18-19 & 24 Jan (FB); 7, Pulaski Co, 28 Feb (KM, TAM). **Others**: 6, Chau, 6 Feb (R&SBj); 6, Henderson Co, 8 Feb (PR); 5, Rend L, 6 Dec< (KM, m.ob.). Fairly typical numbers, but more widespread.

American Woodcock

3, Johnson Co, 28 Feb> (KM, TAM); 1-3, Massac Co, 1-24 Jan (FB); Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (EC); Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); Lebanon (St. Clair Co), 2 Jan (DK); Panther Creek WA (Cass Co), 29 Feb (RJ).

[LITTLE GULL

ad., **Mermet L**, 27 Feb.]

Bonaparte's Gull

MC: **5000**, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 437, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK). **Others**: 100, HL, 3 Dec (JZ); 28, Chau, 5 Dec (R&SBj). Considerably less numerous and found almost exclusively in the south.

Ring-billed Gull

MC: **30,000**, Carl.L, 10 Jan (DK); 8000, L Spfld, 11 Jan (RJ); 6000, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 5888, QC, 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 4857, Chau, 27 Feb (R&SBj); 1230, Chi, 25 Dec (JG, KJM, m.ob.). **Others**: 5000, HL, 5 Dec (KM); 4000, East Alton (Madison Co), 7 Feb (KM); 1200, L Vermilion (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (SB); 800, L&D 21 (Adams Co), 24 Jan (AD). Overall numbers were down, with no large concentrations except at Carl.L.

Herring Gull

MC: 3200, East Alton (Madison Co), 9 Feb (KM); 3000, SRock, 7 Feb (MR, HT); 1857, LCal, 27 Dec (WM). **Others**: 721, QC, 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 481, Rock R (Whiteside & Lee Cos), 24 Dec (KJM, SH); 200, Winthrop H, 21 Feb (RJ, m.ob.); 65, Rend L, 12 Jan (KM); 60, Carl.L, 24 Jan (TAM, DK); **hybrid Herring x Glaucous Gull** ("Nelson's Gull"), 3rd, SRock, 31 Jan (GW, m.ob.).

Thayer's Gull

MC: 12 (11 ad., 1 1st), SRock, 7 Feb (MR, HT); 8 (3 ad., 3 1st, 1 2nd, 1 3rd), L&D 15 (Rock Island Co), 16 Feb (SF). **Others**: 7 (2 ad., 1 1st, 2 2nd, 2 3rd), Chi, 12 Feb (GW); 7 (4 ad., 2 1st, 1 2nd), Winthrop H, 21 Feb (GW, m.ob.); 3 (2 ad., 1 1st), Miss.R (Madison Co), 1 Feb (WR); 1st, New Milford (Winnebago Co), 6 Dec (DW); 1st, Lost Mound NWR (Jo Daviess Co), 17 Dec (DW); ad., Kane Co,

17 Jan (KM, DK, TAM); 1st, Rock Falls (Whiteside Co), 24 Jan (DW); 3rd, South Shore SP (Clinton Co), 24 Jan (TAM, DK).

Iceland Gull

MC: 7 (5 ad., 1 1st, 1 2nd), SRock, 31 Jan (DW, TAM, m.ob.); 4 (2 1st, 1 2nd, 1 3rd), Winthrop H, 21 Feb (GW, m.ob.). **Others**: 2, Rock Island Co, 14 Feb (UG); Geneva (Kane Co), 10 Jan (ES); ad., Chi, 18 Jan (GW); 1st, Madison Co, 6-7 Feb (FH, KM).

Lesser Black-backed Gull

MC: 5 (3 ad., 1 1st, 1 3rd), East Alton (Madison Co), 1 & 7 Feb (KM, WR); 5 (4 ad., 1 3rd), SRock, 7 Feb (MR, HT); 4 (3 ad., 1 3rd), New Milford (Winnebago Co), 6 Dec (DW). **Others**: 3 (1 ad., 2 2nd), Waukegan (Lake Co), 10 Jan (DW); 2 (2 1st), Carl.L, 15 Dec (TAM, DK); 2 (2 ad.), Rend L, 20 Dec (FB, m.ob.); 2 (2 ad.), LCal, 27 Dec (KW, WM); Illinois R (Grundy Co), 8 Jan (JC); ad., L&D 15 (Rock Island Co), 5-16 Feb (SF, m.ob.); ad., Lacon (Marshall Co), 21 Feb (EW). Similar in abundance to last winter.

Short-eared Owl at dusk. Cumberland County. 27 February 2004. Photo by Eric Walters.

Glaucous Gull

MC: 4 (1 ad., 2 1st, 1 2nd), Madison Co, 29-30 Jan, 1 & 9 Feb (FH, WR); 3 (2 ad., 1 1st), SRock, 8 Feb (DW). **Others**: 2 (1 1st, 1 2nd), L Decatur (Macon Co), 2 & 8 Jan (MD, TAM); 2 (1 ad., 1 1st), Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 5 Feb (SF); 2 (1 1st, 1 3rd), Chi, 12 Feb (GW); 1st, Winnebago Co, 6 Dec (DW); ad., Waukegan (Lake Co), 10 Jan (DW); 1st, Geneva (Kane Co), 23 Jan (DW); 1st, Depue (Bureau Co), 21 Feb (EW); ad., Spring Bay (Woodford Co), 21 Feb (EW). See Herring Gull for hybrid. Very similar in abundance and distribution to last winter.

Great Black-backed Gull

2 (1 1st, 1 2nd), East Alton (Madison Co), 7 & 15 Feb (KM, WR); 2 (2 ad.), LCal, 14 Feb (WM); L Vermilion, (Vermilion Co), 17 Dec (*MJE) 2nd county record; 1st, Winthrop H, 21 Feb (GW); Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 27 Feb (JC). Less numerous this winter.

Rock Pigeon

MC: 1219, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 1015, Cook Co, 27 Dec (DFS). **Others**: 559, QC, 14 Dee (L&CB, m.ob.); 293, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (AT, ET, m.ob.); 220, Batavia (Kane Co), 20 Dec (ES); 201, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.). Fairly typical numbers reported.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

MC: **79**, Neoga (Cumberland Co), 21 Dec (JW); **40**, Havana (Mason Co), 3 Jan (EC, m.ob.); 24, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM); 20, Waltonville (Jefferson Co), 2 Jan (KM, CL); 17, Cicero (Cook Co), 22 Dec (GW); 14, Verona (Grundy Co), 1 Feb (EW); 12, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK). This species continues to increase rapidly in numbers and distribution.

[WHITE-WINGED DOVE

Waltonville (Jefferson Co), 6 & 27 Dee, 2 & 20 Jan.] See photograph.

Mourning Dove

MC: 580, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 456, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 443, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 397, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 390, Jasper, Clay & Wayne Cos, 29 Dee (DFS); 150, Carl.L, 12 Dec (DK). **Others**: 194, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 170, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 149, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 20 Dec (LLH, m.ob.); 144, Clin.L, 14 Dec (RJ); 125, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (JB, m.ob.); 125, Green R (Henry Co), 7 Feb (EW); 110, Marshall Co, 17 Dec (DFS); 110, St. Clair Co, 6 Feb (KM); 100, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK). Relatively more abundant this winter.

Monk Parakeet

MC: 81, Burnham (Cook Co), "36 large nest structures were observed," 3 Jan (WM); 38, Hyde Park, Chi, 25 Jan (PC). **Others**: 24, Chi, 25 Dec (JG, KJM, m.ob.); 4, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL)—the only report outside the Chicago area.

Barn Owl

Cypress Creek NWR (Union Co), 6 Dec, 2 & 19 Jan (FB, KM, DK, TAM, CL). **Other**: 1-2, **Putnam Co**, 1-31 Dec—no details.

Eastern Screech-Owl

MC: 10, Rockfd, 20 Dec (DW); 6, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS); 6, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, CB); 5, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 5, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM); 4, Carl.L, 15 Dec (DK); 4, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB - et al). Occurred in typical numbers.

Great Horned Owl

MC: 8, Green R WA (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM, SH); 7, Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 14 Dec (GW); 7, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 6, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM); 5, Carl.L, 12 Dec (DK); 5, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB); 5, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, CB). Slightly fewer reported this winter.

Barred Owl

MC: 12, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 10, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB); 5, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); 4, Carl.L, 10 Jan (DK);. Somewhat fewer recorded this winter.

Long-eared Owl

MC: 60, MidNTP, all winter (RH, GJ); **40**, LMNWR, all winter (DWy, RN); 6, Carl.L, 2 Jan (DK); 4, Du Page Co, 20 Dec (GW). **Others**: 3, Decatur (Macon Co), 17 Feb (TAM); 2, near Danville (Vermilion Co), 25 Nov thru Dec (SB,PW,CM); 2, Stickney Run FP (McHenry Co), 22 Feb (SB); KCP, 25 Nov thru 17 Dec (SB, MJE, VB); Champaign Co, 8-20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.).

Short-eared Owl

MC: 31, Pr.Rdg, 19 Dec (JW, m.ob.); 12, Bartel Grasslands FP (Cook Co), 24 Dec (WM); 9, Diona (Cumberland Co), 27 Feb (EW); 7, Emiq, 1 Jan (KR, LA); 6, Edgar Co, 8 Dec (JC); 6, MidNTP, 15 Feb (RH). **Others**: 5, Carl.L, 13 Dec (DK); 4, Savoy (Champaign Co), 1-31 Jan (CN, SB, m.ob.); 3, Lee Co, 24 Dec (KJM, SH); 3, Johnson Co, 2 Jan (KM, CL); 2, Reilly (Vermilion Co), 21 Nov thru winter (SB,SDe); 2, Pratt's Wayne FP (Du Page Co), 20 Dec (JC); Wayne Co, 1 Dec (BS); Nachusa, 19 Dec (EW); Goose L Pr., 23 Dec (JC). This species was slightly more abundant and widespread across Illinois.

Northern Saw-whet Owl

KCP, 17 Dec (MJE); MidFkVmln, 14-17 Dec (SB); Urbana, 8 Dec thru winter (EC, SB, TAM); Carl.L, 15 Dee & 28 Feb (TAM, DK, KM); Rockton (Winnebago Co), 20 Dec (LJ); Massae Co, 31 Dee (KJM, CB).

[RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD

Olney (Richland Co), 13 Nov thru 20 Dee; imm. fem. Elgin (Kane Co), mid-Nov thru 12 Dec; St. Clair Co, 24 Dec-3 Jan; imm. male, Jackson Co, 28 Dee, 1 & 3 Jan.]

Belted Kingfisher

MC: 12, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 5, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, KJM); 5, LCal, 27 Dec (WM, m.ob.); 4, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 4, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 4, Alexander Co, 29

Dec (KJM, CB); 4, Mermet L, 2 Jan (KM, CL). Less numerous this winter.

Red-headed Woodpecker

MC: 45, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 44, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 30, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 12, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 20 Dec (LLH, m.ob.); 9, Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (KJM, CB, m.ob.). **Others**: 10, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 8, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 5, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 4, Lowden SP (Ogle Co), 19 Dec (EW). Overall, numbers were fairly typical, but greatly reduced numbers reported from the south.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

MC: 172, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 106, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 85, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); 31, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 28, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 26, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). **Others**: 32, Rock R (Ogle Co), 20 Dec (EW); 31, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 28, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 26, Marshall & Putnam Cos, 17 Dec (DFS). More numerous in the north and central sections, but less common in the south.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

MC: **11**, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 8, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB,TH); 8, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 6, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 6, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 5, M.Arb., 14 Dec (JC, ES). Slightly morc numerous this winter, with ones and twos at widespread loeales.

Downy Woodpecker

MC: 214, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 133, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 112, QC, 14 Dee (L&CB, m.ob.); 31, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 19, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 19, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). **Others**: 62, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 30, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 24, Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 14 Dec (GW); 22, Marshall & Putnam Cos, 17 Dec (DFS); 21, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 20, Clin.L, 14 Dec (RJ). Somewhat more abundant, except in the south.

Hairy Woodpecker

MC: 16, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM); 14, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 12, Evanston & Wilmette (Cook Co), 27 Dec (EW, JIE, WS); 12, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 10, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 10, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi). **Others**: 10, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 9, Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 14 Dec (GW); 9, Rock R (Ogle Co), 20 Dec (EW). Fairly normal numbers, exeept in the north, where it was slightly more numerous.

Northern Flicker

MC: 79, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 72, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 54, Union Co, 30 Dee (SB, TH); 49, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 42, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 26, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 25, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 23, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 23, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 22, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.). Slightly more abundant this winter.

Pileated Woodpecker

MC: **30**, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 18, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 13, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 5, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 4, Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (JWS, m.ob.). **Others**: 7, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 4, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 4, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK); 2, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW). Similar in numbers to last winter.

Say's Phoebe in Clinton County. 21 March 2004. Photo by Travis A. Mahan.

Eastern Phoebe

UCCA, 6 Dec (KM, m.ob.); Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB, TH); Union Co, 30 Dec (DFS); Mermet L, 2 & 23 Jan (*FB, KM, CL).

[SAY'S PHOEBE

Carl.L, 22 & 26 Feb.] See photograph.

Loggerhead Shrike

MC: **8**, Jasper, Clay & Wayne Cos, 29 Dec (DFS); **6**, Pr.Rdg, 19 Dec (JW, m.ob.), 1 eating a garter snake. **Others** (outside southern Illinois): Meadowbrook (Champaign Co), 2 Jan-29 Feb (HP, m.ob.); Greene Co, 11 Jan (EW).

Northern Shrike

MC: 10, FermiLab CBC, 20 Dec (m.ob.); **5**, Waukegan CBC, 1 Jan (m.ob.), **5**, McHenry Co CBC (m.ob.); 5, MidNTP, 14 Feb (RH, GJ); 4, Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co), 12 Feb (SB); 3, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW). **Others:** 2, Du Page Co, 17 Jan (KM, DK, TAM); Knox Co, 7 Dec (DJM, PR); River Forest (Cook Co), 14, 21 & 26 Dec (JA); Whiteside Co, 23 Dec (KJM); Lee Co, 24 Dec (KJM, SH); ad., Ascension Cemetery (Lake Co), 25 Dec (SB, SDe); La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, KJM); Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM, LM); ad., Hebron (McHenry Co), 16 Feb (SB); ad., near Glacial Park (McHenry Co), 16 Feb (SB); ad., Winthrop H, 21 Feb (SB, SDe). This species staged a major invasion (minimum of 85 birds) this winter.

Loggerhead Shrike. Greene County. 11 January 2004. Photo by Eric Walters.

Blue Jay

MC: 464, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 299, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 194, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 155, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 139, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 82, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 58, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL). Overall, this species appearcd to be morc abundant.

American Crow

MC: **168,400**, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (MJE, VB, m.ob.); 1500, Rockfd, 27 Dec (DW); 1400, HL, 7 Feb (KM); 1200, Galesburg (Knox Co), 6 Feb (EW); 986, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 200, Carl.L, 12 Dec (DK). **Others**: 475, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); 450, Evanston (Cook Co), 27 Dec (JIE, EW); 400, Hancock Co, 27 Dec (AD); 363, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 150, Solon Mills (McHenry Co), 16 Feb (SB); 117, LCal, 27 Dec (WM). Considerably more abundant this winter, particularly in the north and central regions.

FISH CROW

Madison Co, **11 Jan** (EW).

Horned Lark

MC: 543, Macon, Moultrie & Shelby Cos, 27 Jan (TAM); 500, De Kalb Co, 8 Feb (DW); 470, Dieterich (Effingham Co), 14 Feb (EW); 332, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (EA, DW, m.ob.); 195, Mercer Co, 7 Feb (EW); 150, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (RJ). **Others**: 242, Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (KJM, CB, m.ob.); 147, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 126, McDonough Co, 7 Feb (LLH); 120, Sangamon Co, 8 Feb (RJ). Considerably morc abundant, especially in the north and central sections of the state.

This White-breasted Nuthatch hadn't yet decided whether to eat or store its seed. Photo taken at Lowden State Park (Ogle County) 20 December 2003 by Eric Walters.

TREE SWALLOW
2, UCCA, **6 Dec** (FB, m.ob.).

BARN SWALLOW
East Lynn (Vermilion Co), 17 Dec (*JH).

Carolina Chickadee
MC: 172, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 80, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 77, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 50, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 49, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.). Reported in fairly normal numbers.

Black-capped Chickadee
MC: 616, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 356, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 151, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 117, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (BB, m.ob.). **Others**: 102, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 68, Lee Co, 20 Dec (EW); 49, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 39, Clin.L, 14 Dec (RJ); 25, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 12, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK). Relatively more abundant this winter.

Tufted Titmouse
MC: 119, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 58, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 54, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 49, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 30, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM). Reported in somewhat greater numbers in the north and central regions, but slightly less numerous in the south.

Tufted Titmouse at Lowden State Park. 20 December 2003. Photo by Eric Walters.

Red-breasted Nuthatch
MC: 35, M.Arb., 14 Dec (ES); 19, IBSP, 1 Jan (GW). **Others**: 5, Rockfd, 27 Dec (DW); 4, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 3, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 3, Wilmette (Cook Co), 27 Dec (EW, WS, JIE); 2, Klehm Arboretum, Rockfd, all winter (DW); 2, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 2, SRSF, 30 Dec (TAM); 2, Clinton Co, 28 Feb (TAM, KM); 2, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); Big River State Forest (Henderson Co), 19 Dec (BB). Noticeably more abundant, particularly in the north and central sections of the state.

White-breasted Nuthatch
MC: 231, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 117, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 62, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 46, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 36, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 33, Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (RJ); 33, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 28, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM). Overall, this species seemed to be more abundant.

Brown Creeper
MC: 25, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 28 Feb (KJM, AF); 11, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 10, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 10, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 9, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 6, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.). **Others**: 6, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 6, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 5, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 5, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 5, Wheaton (Du Page Co), 2 Jan (ES). Occurred in fairly typical numbers.

Carolina Wren
MC: 31, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **28**, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); **28**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 18, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 12, Kankakee (Kankakee Co), 3 Jan (GW); 9, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM). **Others** (north): 5, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 4, JP, all winter (PC); 2, QC, 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 2, Whiteside Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS); Severson Dells FP (Winnebago Co), 2 Jan (DW). Slightly less numerous this winter.

Winter Wren
MC: 9, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi, SB); 3, Stump L (Jersey Co), 11 Jan (EW); 2, Cook Co, 7 Dec (CAM). **Others**: 2, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.). 2, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 2, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 2, Urbana (Champaign Co), 31 Jan (SB); Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); QC, 14 Dec (JDS, KR); Naperville (Will Co), 14 Dec (UG); Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (KJM). Considerably lower numbers than last winter.

Sedge Wren
Easter Slough (Pulaski Co), **28 Feb** (TAM, KM).

Marsh Wren
La Salle Co, **28 Dec** (*KW, JD, KJM); Mermet L, **31 Dec** (FB).

Golden-crowned Kinglet
MC: 13, Union County, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 7, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 7, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 7, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 6, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 3, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, KJM); 3, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS). **Others**: 5, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 5, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). Far less common throughout the state.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
MC: 19, Union County, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 12, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 7, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB). **Others**: 2, HL, 27 Dec< (FH, JZ); Chau, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (EC). Slightly more numerous, but restricted to the south and central regions.

Eastern Bluebird
MC: 76, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **59**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 54, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 34, Clay & Wayne Cos, 29 Dec (DFS); 32, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 28, SRSF, 27 Dec (DM, KJM); 27, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 26, Whiteside Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS). **Others**: 18, Riverside (Cook Co), 13 Dec (JA); 16, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 20 Dec (LLH, m.ob.); 15,

Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 11, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 10, Sangchris L (Sangamon Co), 11 Jan (RJ). Slightly more abundant in the north and central regions, but somewhat less numerous in the south.

Hermit Thrush

MC: 32, Homer L FP (Champaign Co), 20 Dec (SB, JOS); **19**, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 8, Massac Co, 31 Dee (KM, DK); 7, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB, TH); 7, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH). **Others**: 3, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB); 3, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 3, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (KJM, CB, m.ob.); 2, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, SH, BC); 2, SRSF, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 2, Carl.L, 24 Jan (TAM, DK); 2, Mundelein (Lake Co), 7 Feb (SB,SDe); 2, Klehm Arboretum, Rockfd, 15 Feb (AS, MM, EW). This species appeared to be more numerous and widespread.

Female Varied Thrush at a residence near the town of Andrew, Fancy Creek Township, Sangamon County. 30 December 2003. Photo by Travis A. Mahan.

American Robin

MC: 2049, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 419, River Forest (Cook Co), 21 Dec (JA, WM); 389, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 157, SRSF, 27 Dec (DM, KJM); 150, Carl.L, 19 Jan (DK); 145, M.Arb., 22 Feb (MBC, ES). **Others**: 150, Adams Co, 9 Jan (AD); 148, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 125, Champaign, 2 Feb (SB); 100, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 3 Jan (KM); 60, Sangchris L (Sangamon Co), 11 Jan (RJ); 60, Mundelein (Lake Co), 7 Feb (SB, SDe); 40, Chain O Lakes SP (Lake Co), 16 Feb (SB). Considerably more abundant this winter, especially in the north and central regions.

[VARIED THRUSH

ad. female, Sangamon Co, 29-30 Dec, 17 Jan.] See photograph.

GRAY CATBIRD

Moline (Rock Island Co), **14 Dec** (*TM, SF); Champaign Co, **20 Dec** (EC); JP, **22 Dec**< (*PC); Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (*MJE); Union Co, **30 Dec** (*KJM, SDi); Iroquois Co Conservation Area (Iroquois Co), **1 Feb** (EW).

Northern Mockingbird

MC: 17, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 8, Pulaski Co, 28 Feb (KM, TAM). **Others** (north & central): 2, McDonough Co, 20 Dec (LLH); 2, SRSF, 27 Dec (DM, KJM); Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC); Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (KJM, CB); Johnson Sauk Trail SP (Henry Co), 21 Feb (EW). Occurred in rather typical abundance.

Brown Thrasher

MC: 5, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 4, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 2, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB, TH); 2, Richland Co, 20 Dec (LHn). **Others**: MdFrk Vmln, 14 Dec (SB); UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); Massae Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); Carl.L, 19 Jan (DK); Beall Woods (Wabash Co), 29 Jan (BS). Fairly typical numbers this winter.

European Starling

MC: 20,000, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); **15,000**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 6450, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 5000, Kane Co, 20 Dec (ES); 3081, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 1578, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 592, Mereer Co, 19 Dee (KJM, m.ob.). **Others**: 3000, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK); 1841, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); 1247, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.). Smaller numbers reported this winter across Illinois.

American Pipit

MC: 127, Pulaski (Alexander Co), 29 Dec (SB, TH). **Others:** 5, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); Fort Sheridan (Lake Co), 27 Dec (*GW). See photo in Christmas Bird Count article in this issue.

Cedar Waxwing

MC: 435, Klehm Arboretum, Rockfd, 3 Jan (DW); 200, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 161, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 144, M.Arb., 13 Dec (EW); 92, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 84, Weinburg-King SP (Schyuler Co), 21 Jan (LLH); 40, Carl.L, 12 Dec (DK). **Others**: 78, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 71, Clin.L, 14 Dec (RJ); 63, SRSF, 27 Dec (DM, KJM). More abundant in the north and central sections, but less numerous in the south.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER

Fort Sheridan (Lake Co), **27 Dec** (*GW); Mermet L, **19 Jan** (FB).

CAPE MAY WARBLER

male, Elsah (Jersey Co), 20-22 Jan (HT, m.ob.).

Yellow-rumped Warbler

MC: 51, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); **33**, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB, TH); **27**, M.Arb., 27 Dec (ES); **25,** Carl.L, 15 Dec (TAM, DK); **25**, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); **21**, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **20**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK), **20**, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.). **Others:** 13, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 11, Richland Co, 20 Dec (LHn); 9, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 5, Edwards Co, 1 Jan (BS). Considerably more common this winter.

PINE WARBLER

2, CrabOr., **28 Feb** (KM, TAM).

PALM WARBLER

Jackson Co, **1 Jan** (TH); Mermet L, **2 & 23-24 Jan** (FB, KM, CL).

Cedar Waxwing. Morton Arboretum, DuPage County. 13 February 2004. Photo by Eric Walters.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT
female, Mermet L, **31 Dec & 19 Jan** (*KJM, CB, FB).

Spotted Towhee
Chi, 16 & 19 Dec (GW, MBC); ad. male, Winfield (Du Page Co), 20 Dec, 17-24 Jan (TAM, RF, KF, KM, CL); Jersey Co, 14 Feb (CM, LHs).

Eastern Towhee
MC: **12**, MdFrk Vmln, 14-17 Dec (SB); **10**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 5, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL). **Others**: 4, CrabOr., 6 Dec (FB, m.ob.); 2, Carl.L, 15 Dec (TAM, DK); La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (TM, WZ, m.ob.); male, Cook Co, 25 Jan (CAM). Good numbers.

American Tree Sparrow
MC: **809**, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); **665**, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (EA, DW, m.ob.); **500**, Pecatonica Wetlands FP (Winnebago Co), 25 Jan (DW); 329, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 300, HL, 15 Feb (FH); 175, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others**: 495, Putnam Co, 17 Dec (DFS); 358, Nachusa, 20 Dec (EW, JIE); 180, Kane Co, 1 Feb (ES); 160, LCal, 20 Dec (WM); 110, Clin.L, 14 Dec (RJ); 102, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 100, Hebron (McHenry Co), 16 Feb (SB); 96, Sangamon Co, 8 Feb (RJ); 36, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). Occurred in greater abundance, particularly in the north and central regions.

Field Sparrow
MC: **52**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 18, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB). **Others**: 17, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); Rockfd, 20 Dec (DW); Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC); IBSP, 1 Jan (GW); Flat Rock (Crawford Co), 14 Feb (EW). Slightly less common this winter.

Vesper Sparrow
Massac Co, **31 Dec** (*KJM).

Savannah Sparrow
MC: **15**, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB, TH); **14**, Monroe Co, 23 Feb (JZ); **10**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); **10**, HL, 11 Feb (KM). **Others**: 7, Johnson Co, 28 Feb (KM, TAM); 3, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 3, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 3, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 2, Carl.L, 13 Dec (DK). Good numbers.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW
Palos FP (Cook Co), **22 Dec** (*GW).

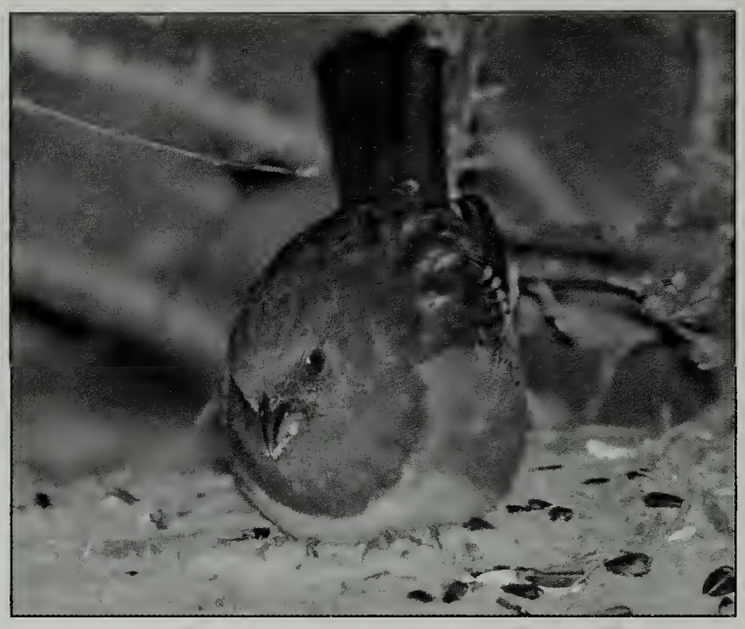
Le Conte's Sparrow
M.C.: 3, HLCA, 29 Dec (SB, TH). **Others:** HL, 7 Dec< (FH); Putnam Co, 17 Dec (DFS).

Fox Sparrow
MC: 10, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 7, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 6, Klehm Arboretum, Rockfd, 27 Dec (DW); 5, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 4, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 4, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 4, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK). Species seemed to be slightly less common.

Song Sparrow
MC: **118**, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); **106**, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 87, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 73, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (EA, DW, m.ob.); 65, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.). **Others**: 77, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 59, Putnam Co, 17 Dec (DFS); 38, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 36, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 32, Nachusa, 20 Dec (EW, JIE). This species occurred in somewhat greater numbers.

Lincoln's Sparrow
Cook Co, **9 Dec** (MBC); La Salle Co, **28 Dec** (*KJM, KW, JD); Massac Co, **31 Dec** (KM, DK).

Swamp Sparrow
MC: 73, Putnam Co, 17 Dec (DFS); 48, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 38, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 28, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (EA, DW, m.ob.); 27, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB); 22, Chau, 6 Dec (LLH). Rather typical numbers this winter.



A female Spotted Towhee spent part of early winter in a small hedegrow adjacent to a busy parking lot and Chicago street in Cook County. This photo was taken 17 December 2003 by Eric Walters.

White-throated Sparrow
MC: **303**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); **231**, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **198**, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); **173**, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **113**, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); **105**, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 57, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); 25, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM). This species remained relatively abundant and widespread throughout Illinois.

HARRIS'S SPARROW
3, **HL**, 15 Feb (FH).

White-crowned Sparrow
MC: 94, Putnam Co, 17 Dec (DFS); 67, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 60, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDi); 20, Tolono (Champaign Co), 15 Jan (RJ). **Others**: 25, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK); 21, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 14, Hebron (McHenry Co), 16 Feb (SB). Numbers similar to last year.

Dark-eyed Junco
MC: 773, QC, 14 Dee (JDS, KR, m.ob.); 555, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 303, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 241, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 128, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 125, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: 244, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 171, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 121, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 117, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 86, LCal, 27 Dec (WM). Abundance was fairly similar to last winter.

Lapland Longspur
MC: **2000**, Carl.L, 7 Feb (DK); 278, De Kalb Co, 1 Feb (JC); 175, Winnebago Co, 7 Jan (DW); 100, Thomasboro, (Champaign Co), 12 Feb (SB, EC); 90, Beaverville (Iroquois Co), 1 Feb (EW). **Others**: 62, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (EA, DW, m.ob.); 62, Ogle Co, 20 Jan (JC); 34, Pulaski (Alexander Co), 29 Dec (SB, TH); 32, Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (JDS, m.ob.). This species was found in lower numbers.

Snow Bunting
MC: 90, Carroll Co, 18 Feb (JC); 78, Fort Sheridan (Lake Co), 27 Dec (GW); 65, St. Anne (Kankakee Co), 1 Feb (EW); 40, Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); 40, LCal, 27 Dec (WM, JA); 30, Monticello (Piatt Co), 30 Jan (RJ). **Others** (central/south): 7, Maeon Co, 7 Feb (TAM); 5, Thomasboro (Champaign Co), 10 Feb (SB, m.ob.); 5, McLean Co, 7 Feb (MR, HT); 5, Henderson Co, 8 Feb (PR); 3, Sangamon Co, 8 Feb (RJ); 2, Carl.L, 7 Feb (DK); 2, Jasper Co, 8 Feb (LHn); Edwards Co, 1 Feb (BS). Overall more abundant and widespread.

Northern Cardinal

MC: 447, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); 426, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 413, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 136, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 59, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 57, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK). This species appeared to be more abundant in the north and central sections, and less numerous in the south.

INDIGO BUNTING

5 (3 male, 2 female), Mermet L, **31 Dec** (*KJM, CB); 4, UCCA, **30 Dec** (VK, et.al); 2, Mermet L, **20 Jan** (FB).

DICKCISSEL

O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), **26 Dec** (*KM).

Red-winged Blackbird

MC: **300,000**, Rend L, 6 Dec (FB, m.ob.); **26,682**, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); **11,950**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 3001, Barstow Marsh (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 524, IBSP, 1 Jan (GW); 178, Panther Creek WA (Cass Co), 29 Feb (RJ); 150, MTwain, 19 Dec (KJM). Most southern concentrations were smaller than last year.

Eastern Meadowlark

MC: **89**, Jasper, Clay & Wayne Cos, 29 Dec (DFS); **82**, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SB, TH); **81**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); **30**, Carl.L, 15 Dec (KM, CL); 8, Panther Creek WA (Cass Co), 29 Feb (RJ); 5, New Boston (Mereer Co), 7 Feb (EW). Somewhat less abundant; restricted to the central and southern regions.

Western Meadowlark

New Boston (Mercer Co), 7 Feb (EW); HL, 22 Feb> (FH); Carl.L, 28 Feb (KM, TAM); Jasper Co, 29 Feb (ES).

Rusty Blackbird

MC: 260, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 150, Carl.L, 10 Jan (DK); 100, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 30, Panther Creek WA (Cass Co), 29 Feb (RJ); 15, Green R WA (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM, SH); 10, SRSF, 27 Dee (DM, KJM); 9, Barstow Marsh (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 9, Hebron (McHenry Co), 16 Feb (SB). Numbers were slightly higher.

Brewer's Blackbird

MC: 30, Carl.L, 22 Feb> (KM); 7-9, Massac Co, 19 & 24 Jan (FB).

Common Grackle

MC: **39,000**, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); **20,000**, Carl.L, 24 Jan (TAM, DK); **19,257**, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); **11,600**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 75, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 28 Feb (KJM, AF); 46, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM). The number reported was substantially lower, especially at southern concentration sites.

Brown-headed Cowbird

MC: 1000, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 609, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 500, UCCA, 6 Dec (FB, m.ob.); 426, Kankakee (Kankakee Co), 3 Jan (GW); 351, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 200, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 160, Kingdom (Lee Co), 20 Dec (EW); 141, Mazon (Grundy Co), 1 Feb (EW). This species occurred in smaller numbers.

Common Redpoll, East Alton, Madison County. 10 January 2004. Photo by Travis A. Mahan.

Purple Finch

MC: 32, SRSF, 27 Dec (DM, KJM); 27, Homer L (Champaign Co), 20 Dec (SB, JOS); 21, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB); 20, White Pines SP (Ogle Co), 28 Feb (DW); 19, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 15, Carl.L, 15 Dec (TAM, DK). **Others**: 23, Schuyler Co, 21 Jan (LLH); 16, Putnam Co, 17 Dec (DFS); 14, Table Grove (Fulton Co), 23 Feb (KM); 12, Sam Parr WA (Jasper Co), 19 Dec (SB); 12, Rockfd, 18 Jan (DW); 10, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, SH, BC); 4, Rend L, 27 Feb (EW); 3, Grant Woods FP (Lake Co), 6 Dec (SB, SDe); 2, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). This species was considerably more abundant.

House Finch

MC: **720**, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); **189**, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); **188**, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **120**, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, KJM); 54, Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 7 Feb (EW); 20, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 17, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). **Others**: 60, M.Arb., 14 Dec (ES); 45, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 36, Adams Co, 4 Feb (AD); 35, Fishhook WA (Moultrie Co), 15 Feb (TAM); 15, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 7 Dec (KM). Considerably greater numbers reported.

Red Crossbill

2, Fabyan FP (Kane Co), 10 Jan (ES).

White-winged Crossbill

2, Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (MJE).

Common Redpoll

MC: **50**, Klehm Arboretum, Rockfd, 8-29 Feb (DW); 25, CBG, 6 Feb (DJ). **Others**: 4, Evanston (Cook Co), 27 Dec (LHl); 4, East Alton (Madison Co), 2 & 7-8 Jan (*FH, KM, CL, JF, TF); 4, Hennepin Canal Parkway SP (Bureau Co), 7 Feb (EW); 3, East Moline (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (*KJM, m.ob.); 3, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (*KJM, CB); SRSF, 27 Dec (DM, KJM); Wheaton (Du Page Co), 3 Feb (ES); female, Fishhook WA (Moultrie Co), 15 Feb (TAM). A modest invasion.

This Western Meadowlark was found near New Boston, Mercer County 7 February 2004. This paler meadowlark was present within a flock of Easterns. Note the middle of its back feathers are not all dark, as would be expected on an Eastern. Also, in the color photo the yellow started to spill into the sub-moustachial region, another Western feature. Photo by Eric Walters.

Pine Siskin

MC: **120**, Rockfd, 28 Dec (DW); **91**, M.Arb., 13 Dec (EW); 45, Mundelein (Lake Co), 7 Feb (SB, SDe); 16, Decatur (Macon Co), 10 Jan (TAM); 8, SRSF, 30 Dec (TAM). **Others**: 20, LaFayette (Stark Co), 11 Jan (JW, RW); 17, River Forest (Cook Co), 14 Dec (JA); 16, Ogle Co, 20 Dec (JIE, EW); 10, Boone Co, 7 Dec (AB); 3, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 2, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 20 Dec (LLH); CrabOr., 6 Dec (KM, DK, FB); Carl.L, 7 Dec (TAM, DK). Invasion largely restricted to the north.

American Goldfinch

MC: **493**, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); **368**, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **300**, Fishhook WA (Moultrie Co), 15 Feb (TAM); **187**, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 102, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 46, Rend L, 20 Dec (TAM, DK); 40, Mermet L, 28 Feb (KM, TAM); 32, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB). Considerably more abundant throughout Illinois this winter.

House Sparrow

MC: 1301, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, m.ob.); 1265, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 941, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 642, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 278, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 223, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 200, Carl.L, 15 Dec (TAM, DK). Reported in greater numbers.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow

MC: 174, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 169, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 20 Dec (LLH, m.ob.); 27, Toulon (Stark Co), 13 Feb (JW, RW); 25, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK); 6, HL, 7 Feb (KM). **Others**: 85, Morgan Co, 11 Jan (EW); 37, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 32, Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 27 Dec (AD); 10, Big R State Forest (Henderson Co), 7 Feb (EW); 5, Stump L (Jersey Co), 11 Jan (EW); 2, Cordova (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (*KJM); Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (KJM, CB). This species seems to be increasing and expanding northward, especially along the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

EXOTIC / RELEASED SPECIES

Trumpeter Swan

MC: 9 (8 ad., 1 imm.), New Columbia (Massac Co), 20 Dec (*FB); 5, Jasper Co, 4 Feb (LHn); 5 (2 ad., 3 imm.), Chau, 27 Feb (R&SBj); 4, Cordova (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (*KJM). **Others**: 4, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB, TH, m.ob.), from introduced Iowa population; 2, HL, 9 Feb (FH).

Ringed Turtle-Dove

6, Verona (Grundy Co), 1 Feb (EW)—the only report.

ABOUT OUR ADS AND AD RATES....The Illinois Ornithological Society accepts pertinent ads for publishing in Meadowlark. The rates and rules are as follows:

Required materials: Camera-ready copy and check payable to IOS should be sent to: Sheryl De Vore, 967 Braeburn Road, Mundelein, IL 60060.

Due dates: No. 1- Summer: February 1; No. 2 - Fall: May 1; No, 3 - Winter: August 1; No. 4 - Spring: November 1

Rates PER ISSUE: $15 one-eighth page or equivalent of one business size card; $30 one quarter page or equivalent of two business size cards; $60 half page.

We reserve the right to accept or deny any ad, and to limit the space set aside for ads, which will be placed at the back of the journal.

The Illinois Ornithological Society gratefully acknowledges the following supporters and contributors for their generous donations and support.

Patron ($2000) • Mary Ann Mahoney
Sponsor ($500+) • Marsha Steffen

Supporters ($100+)

Dale Birkenholz
Philip D. Doncheck
Ronald & Mary Lou Flemal
Rick & Tracy Fox
Alice Gregory
Roy A. Jensen
R. David Johnson
Warren Jones
Anne Kotowski
Alex & Marilyn Meloy
Patricia Miller
Wilbur & Baiba Rosenkranz
Harriet W. Rylaarsdam
Roger & Dana Rzepka
Douglas Stotz & Francie Muraski-Stotz
Peter S. Weber
Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Westcott
Marylin M. Wille
Daniel & Barbara Williams
Geoffrey & Christine Williamson

Contributors ($50+)

Steven D. Bailey • Frank Bennett
Christopher Boebel & Glenna Eaves • Denis M. Bohm • Ann Bothe
Patricia R. Braker • Florence Burek • Marilyn F. Campbell
Elizabeth J. Chato • Paul R. Clyne • Robin N. Cronin
Karl H. David • Rich DeCoster • Tammy Devine • Sheryl DeVore
Jon J. Duerr • Barbara C. Elftman • Carolyn & Chuck Fields
Bob and Karen Fisher • Mrs. Erica Friederici• J. Patriek Graham
Carol Haddon • Willard A. Hartman • Ann Haverstock
Michael J. Hogg • Steve Hossler • Roger E. Hotham • L. Barrie Hunt
Rhetta Jaek • Dorothy Jackson • Anthony and Amy Jones
Ms. Judith M. Joy • Tom and Katie (Wolfley) Kelly • Julie Long
Karen Lund • Marjorie Lundy and Family • Travis Mahan
Keith A. McMullen • Mary Lou Mellon • Riehard D. Messenger
North Central Illinois Ornithological Society
Helen M. Parker • Elaine Regehr • JoAnne Rittenberg
Rev. Gregory S. Sakowicz • Darrell Shambaugh
Muriel Smith • John & Lenette Staudinger • Anne Straight
Joe Suchecki • Wayne Svoboda • M. A. & M. S. Traylor
John Wisnewski • Gordon C. Wood & Ann B. Maine

Send Seasonal Reports to:

Winter Field Notes
Due by 7 March (1 Dec through 28 Feb)
Send to: Kelly McKay
420 First Ave., PO Box 452, Hampton, IL 61256-0452
E-mail: KellyJMcKay@aol.com

Spring Field Notes
Due by 7 June (1 Mar through 31 May)
Send to: Paul R. Clyne
5538 S. Blackstone Ave., Chicago, IL 60637
E-mail: prclyne@hotmail.com

Breeding Season Field Notes
Due by 7 August (1 June through 31 July)
Send to: Vernon Kleen
1825 Clearview Drive, Springfield, IL 62704
E-mail: kleen@quixnet.net

Fall Season Field Notes
Due by 7 December (1 Aug through 30 Nov)
Send to: Douglas Stotz
Conservation Ecologist/Ornithologist
Environmental and Conservation Programs
Field Museum of Natural History
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605
Email address: dstotz@fieldmuseum.org

Submission Information

We welcome manuscripts, photographs, and illustrations for possible publication in Meadowlark.

Article topics include unusual bird sightings and nesting accounts, technical papers on bird research, and other articles such as bird finding guides and field identification tips. Joy of birding articles will be considered.

Manuscripts should be typewritten or computer-generated, double spaced and on only one side of numbered pages. Please send two copies of your manuscript and make sure you keep another for yourself.

We require a computer disc in Word or Word Perfect or an electronic file.

We prefer clear black and white or color print photographs. Digital or electronic files (200-300 dpi.) are also acceptable.

Include name, address, and day and night time phone numbers. Other pertinent information about your qualifications and background is also helpful.

We reserve the right to review and edit articles according to style, grammar, accuracy, and readability.

Send articles, photographs, illustrations & inquiries to:

Sheryl De Vore, Chief Editor
967 Braeburn, Mundelein, IL 60060
e-mail address: sheryl.devore@comcast.net

JOIN IOS TODAY!

Members of the Illinois Ornithological Society receive *Meadowlark*, the quarterly journal, plus Wings Over The Prairie, the IOS newsletter. Members are also invited to special field trips, the annual meeting, and other IOS functions.

To join or send a gift subscription, send your name or that of the gift recipient, address, and telephone number along with fee to:

IOS
P.O. Box 931
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Fees: Individual $25; Family $30;
Full-time student $10; Contributor $50 - $99;
Supporter $100 - $499; Sponsor $500

Back issues of Volumes 1 through 12
are still available for $5 each.

Springhouse begins where the travel brochures leave off.
Read about the real Southern Illinois:
History, Folklore, humor, recipes, and letters - always plenty of letters.
One year subscription (6 issues) $25.00

Springhouse
P.O. Box 61 • Herod, IL 62947
Phone: (618) 252-3341

Support **Meadowlark**
Advertise Here!!
~ business card size ads ~
only $15 per issue

The Illinois Ornithological Society accepts pertinent ads for publishing in *Meadowlark*.

See advertising information on page 120.

Meadowlark.
American Museum of Natural History
Received on: 01-04-05

AMNH LIBRARY
100233042

Photo taken by Jerry Kumery in his Brookfield (Cook County) backyard. Carolina Wrens visited his feeders throughout the 2003/2004 winter season.